FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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17 August Middle East and South Asia Review

LD171402 [Editorial Report]

Gulf Conflict

Iranian Leaders on War — The United States is Iran's "principle enemy," Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i declared upon arrival in Mashhad 15 August for a 5-day tour of Khorasan Province, IRNA reported. In a speech carried by Tehran radio, Khamene'i explained that "global arrogance" is afraid that an Iranian victory in the war will aid the Islamic revolution in becoming "worldwide." The United States is using "everything at its disposal" against Iran, he asserted. The next day in Bojnurd, Khamene'i stressed that Iran is determined to continue the war until "the aggression is eliminated, the aggressor becomes penitent, and the nose of arrogance is rubbed in the dust," the radio reported.

Prior to leaving for Khorasan, the president commented on the Mecca incidents to the Friday prayer ceremony in Tehran. In a sermon carried by the radio, the president condemned the "massacre," and he also criticized "taking stands against embassies." "Such acts must not continue," he instructed.

In remarks carried by the radio the same day, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni recalled that waging war on behalf of one's "ideology" continues the "traditions of the prophets." The purpose of the Islamic revolution is "to revive justice," therefore, Iran should not be surprised to receive "slaps in the face" from "usurper governments" and the world media, the Iranian leader maintained.

Velayati Visit to Oman — Following a 2-day visit to Oman where he delivered a message from President Khamene'i to Sultan Qabas, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati told Tehran radio 16 August that Omani officials have "full understanding" of Iran's position that regional countries should be responsible for maintaining security in the Gulf. Oman also "welcomed" Iran's readiness to carry out minesweeping activities and termed it a "very positive move," Velayati said. In addition to "lengthy talks" on Gulf issues, Velayati and Yusuf ibn al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, also discussed expanding bilateral relations. Meanwhile, the London *Sunday Telegraph*, citing "Omani military sources," reported that the sultan has agreed to provide "limited basing facilities" for the British minesweeping force heading for the Gulf.

Minesweeping in Gulf — Iranian Navy helicopters are carrying out "surface and underwater reconnaissance operations" in the Gulf of Oman, thus demonstrating their "strength and ability" to maintain Gulf security, Tehran radio reported 16 August. In remarks reported by the radio, the commander of the Gulf and Gulf of Oman fleet, announced 14 August that Iranian aircraft, ships, and specialized personnel, including divers, had received the order to mobilize for "full strength" minesweeping operations. Naval forces are on "100-percent alert" to implement the mission, the commander declared. Meanwhile, the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Ra'y Al-'Amm* speculated that the recent Iranian naval maneuvers were used as a "cover" for mining the Gulf, KUNA reported, adding that the paper accused Iran of "provoking" the United States, Britain, France, and the USSR.

In a "memorandum" to the Iranian ambassador in Abu Dhabi, the UAE Foreign Ministry "expressed its appreciation" for Iran's offer to sweep UAE territorial waters for mines and emphasized that ending the "destructive" Iran-Iraq war is the only way to "foil all attempts to interfere" in the region, WAKH reported 14 August. The Foreign Ministry stressed that UAE waters were "almost clear" of mines. However, on 15 August a Swedish-owned supply boat hit a mine off the UAE coast in the Gulf of Oman and sank, killing at least 1 of the 11 crew, Stockholm radio reported. The next day WAKH noted that two more mines were detonated off the coast of Al-Fujayrah by military specialists. In another development, the Al-Shariqah paper *Al-Khalij* reported 14 August that border patrols in Dubayy intercepted a fiberglass boat carrying 11 people of "Iranian nationality." They were arrested for trying to enter the country illegally.

Kuwaiti Call to UN — The Kuwaiti Council of Ministers called on the five permanent members of the UN Security Council to "intensify their efforts" for the implementation of Resolution No 598, KUNA reported 16 August, adding that the ministers urged the SecurityCouncil to "live up to its responsibilities." Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah noted "indications" that the current tension is in its death-throes, in an interview with *Al-Siyasah* carried by KUNA 15 August. Stressing the importance of implementing Resolution No 598, the prime minister declared that Kuwait is "prepared to resume our diplomatic activity unconditionally if Iran really wants peace." The heir-apparent dismissed the Iranian propaganda against Kuwait and other Gulf nations as being for "domestic consumption," but he warned that such a campaign may "backfire."

Battlefield Action — Iraqi warplanes scored "direct hits" on pumping stations at Ahvaz oil fields Nos 1 and 2, a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio 16 August announced. Tehran radio reported the same day that an "industrial unit" in Khuzestan Province was damaged and several workers were injured by an Iraqi air strike. Tehran subsequently accused Iraq of bombing villages near Mehran and Ahvaz, thereby killing a total of six civilians and wounding others. However, a military spokesman cited by INA denied that Iraq bombed "purely residential areas."

Regarding action in the "Nasr-7" operational area, Tehran radio reported that Iranian troops repelled a 15 August Iraqi counterattack, killing or wounding 1,000 enemy troops. An Iraqi military statement cited by INA the next day denied Iranian reports that an Iraqi helicopter had been downed in the sector. Iraq also denied Iran's "false allegations" that Iraqi warplanes bombed "residential areas" near Sardasht 13 August, adding that Tehran was only trying to "justify its crimes" against Al-Basrah, Qal'at Dizah, and other border towns.

Saudi Arabia

Four people were injured in a fire at an off-shore gas terminal at Al-Ju'aymah, a Petroleum Ministry statement carried by SPA

15 August announced. The statement noted that the fire was probably caused by a "power surge."

Iran

Hajj Dispute — Saudi authorities in Mecca arrested several hajj officials and deported them to Iran 16 August, according to an announcement carried by Tehran radio. One of the officials told the radio that "at least 2,000 to 3,000 policemen" cordoned off the area of the pilgrims headquarters before "swarming" over the building and taking the officials away "like prisoners." In remarks cited by the radio 14 August, the Iranian pilgrims supervisor accused the Saudis of obstructing special weekly prayers in Medina. The Saudis prevented the prayers by "stationing military forces," the supervisor charged, adding that some pilgrims were arrested. The pilgrims supervisor also claimed that the Saudis have "forbidden" him to go to Medina. Regarding the repatriation of the Mecca dead, the radio announced that with the arrival of 58 bodies 14 August, a total of 230 "martyrs" had been returned. On the same day the radio also reported that Bahraini police fired on a demonstration in support of Iran's position on the "bloody Friday incident."

Hashemi Trial — The trial of Mehdi Hashemi, former associate of Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, began 13 August at a "spiritual court in Evin," IRNA announced 15 August, adding that the eight-count indictment against the defendant includes charges of murder, kidnapping, and sedition. The agency recalled that in a televised interview, Hashemi confessed and "pleaded the imam's pardon."

Afghanistan

Border Problems With Iran — The Iranian charge d'affaires was summoned to receive a "strongly worded" protest regarding "provocative actions" along the common border, including missile and artillery attacks on a border post at Eslam Qal'eh 14 August, Kabul radio reported. The note denounced Iran's "blatant violation" of international norms and warned that DRA forces will "stop and foil the aggression" if Iran does not cease its "hostile operations." Iran also filed a protest over an "unprovoked attack" on a border post at Do Gharun 14 August during which a "number" of Iranians were killed and wounded by DRA artillery shells, IRNA reported.

Shortcomings Reviewed — During its regular session 15 August, the Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee issued instructions aimed at removing shortcomings in the areas of education, nomad affairs, and justice administration, Kabul radio reported. The Politburo singled out the national attorney general's office for particular criticism and deemed "unsatisfactory" the work of the party committee of Kabul's 10th Ward, which is responsible for the office, Kabul radio pointed out, noting that several 10th Ward officials were removed from their party and state posts.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad welcomed his UAE counterpart, Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, who arrived 15 August for a "state and friendly visit," Damascus radio reported, noting that the two leaders discussed regional developments and bilateral relations in a closed meeting.

Libya

Conflict With Chad — A 15 August military communique carried by Ndjamena radio announced that 170 Libyan soldiers were killed when Chadian troops repelled attacks in the Aozou area the previous day. Other FANT communiques carried by the radio noted that Libyan warplanes continued their air strikes on various localities including Aozou, Bardai, Zouar, Ounianga Kebir, and Ouadi Doum 14-15 August. In remarks to AFP, Chadian President Hissein Habre reiterated that while his government "will not cede" any part of its territory to Libya, Chad is "not refusing to discuss Libya's claim." For Libya's part, an article in *Al-Jumahiriyah* reiterated that Libyan territory "is neither negotiable nor an issue for discussion," JANA reported. Libya has "the right to respond" as it deems appropriate, the article asserted.

Relations With Iran — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, who delivered a message from Iranian President Khamene'i on the events in Mecca and the "imperialist threat" to the Gulf, JANA reported 14 August. During their 1-hour conference, Al-Qadhdhafi reiterated his call for the administration of the holy places by a joint Islamic group and stressed Libya's support for Iran in its "confrontation with imperialism," IRNA reported.

Israel

Lavi Decision Postponed — After more than 6 hours of discussion, the Cabinet postponed its decision on the Lavi project for 2 weeks, Jerusalem radio reported 16 August. The Treasury subsequently refused to grant "interim financing" of some 20 million dollars for the project, the radio added.

Disturbances — Two Israelis received bullet wounds when the car in which they were riding was ambushed 16 August near the Jabalyah camp in Gaza, Jerusalem radio reported. While all entrances to the strip were initially closed, the radio added, a curfew only in the area where the incident occurred now remains in effect. In the West Bank three Arab youths were wounded when security forces fired their weapons to break up demonstrations in the Nabulus area 14 August, Jerusalem radio also reported, noting that a curfew was imposed while investigations were carried out. The Interior Ministry closed down the Nazareth newspaper *Al-Jamahir* because of its "ultranationalistic stands," the radio announced.

Lebanon

Four people were killed when a car exploded near Tyre 16 August, Voice of National Resistance radio reported, adding that the vehicle was transporting explosives to be used against "Zionist occupation forces" in the south.

"Urgent repair and maintaince work" caused Beirut radio to leave the air 14 August for a week, Voice of National Resistance

radio reported, citing an announcement by Beirut radio's director.

Egypt

Two bystanders were wounded when gunmen fired on the home of former Interior Minister Al-Nabawi Isma'il 13 August, an Interior Ministry statement carried by MENA announced. The agency later reported that one policeman was killed and three others slightly wounded when security forces raided a house where the perpetraters were thought to be hiding out. The Ministry has disseminated descriptions of three suspects in the assassination attempt and is offering a reward for information leading to their capture, MENA noted.

Sudan

Health Minister Husayn Abu Salih resigned as an "expression of anger" against the coalition "crisis," Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi announced in remarks cited by SUNA 16 August.

AFP: 'Arafat To Visit Moscow in September

NC122041 Paris AFP in English 2033 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Amman, Aug 12 (AFP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat is expected to make an official visit to Moscow this September, his first in five years, Palestinian sources said here Wednesday.

Mr. 'Arafat's talks with Soviet officials are to focus on relations between the PLO and Moscow as well as PLO-Syrian ties, the sources said. The Soviet Union has been involved in efforts to reconcile the mainstream PLO and pro-Syrian factions. The latest developments in convening an international peace conference on the Middle East will also be discussed during Mr. 'Arafat's visit, the sources said.

The PLO leader's last official visit to the Soviet Union dates back to December 1982.

'Arafat Arrives in Tunis After Romania Visit

JN131924 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1817 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in Tunis from Bucharest at dawn yesterday at the conclusion of an official visit to Romania at the invitation of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, secretary general of the Romanian Communist Party and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

Further on Romania Visit

For Bucharest reportage on the visit to Romania by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, including his talks with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, see the Romania section of the 12 August East Europe *Daily Report*.

'Arafat Arrives in Algeria for Talks With Officials

JN151658 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman, arrived in the Algerian city of Oran today on a visit to Algeria scheduled to last several days. During the visit, Brother Abu 'Ammar will hold talks with Algerian officials on the latest developments in the Palestinian arena and the current Arab situation. Brother Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman, will also attend the graduation ceremony of a new batch of Palestinian revolution cubs in the Oran Governorate.

Received by FLN's Messaadia

LD151934 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and official in charge of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, received this afternoon at party headquarters a Palestinian delegation led by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee.

Arab issues of destiny, foremost among which being the Palestinian people's issue, and the latest developments witnessed in that arena, were the focus of talks at the meeting. They reviewed in particular the tragedy of the Palestinian camps, and discussed a number of international issues of concern to the Arab east and west. Matters pertaining to the convocation of an Arab summit and an international conference on the Middle East were discussed.

The meeting was attended by Brother Sadek Zouaten, member of the Central Committee and official in charge of friendship and solidarity with peoples.

Announces Geneva Conference

LD161342 Algiers APS in English 1114 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Oran, 16/8/87 (APS) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat announced on Saturday in a statement to the national press in Oran (west of Algeria) the holding of a conference next September in Geneva under UN auspices. It will group together nongovernmental organisations, 'Arafat said. In this respect PLO president expressed appreciation of the position taken by EEC countries meeting recently in Brussels about the international peace conference on the Middle East. Israel and the United States are the only obstacle on the way of the convening of an international peace conference by denying the Palestinian people and its sole and legitimate representative the PLO the right to exist, 'Arafat said.

Regarding the implementation of the resolutions made by the Palestine National Council in Algiers, 'Arafat pointed out that after the Algiers meeting, the Palestinians closed ranks. The stepping up of resistance operations against the Zionist troops in the occupied territories and south Lebanon shows evidence of the common action of the Palestinians in the imperial-Zionist manoeuvers. The strike of 240,000 Palestinians workers in the occupied territories called by the PLO, 'Arafat said, is a form of adhesion of the popular masses to the resolutions of the last PNC session.

In conclusion, 'Arafat thanked on behalf of the Palestinian people, the Algerian people and government and in the forefront of them, President Chadli Bendjedid, FLN party secretary general, for their support for the Palestinian revolution.

PLO Executive Committee To Meet in Tunis 20 Aug

JN151748 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee will hold a meeting in Tunis on 20 August under brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. The committee will discuss issues related to the latest developments in the Palestine question, an international conference on the Middle East, and the stands of various parties toward such a conference. It will also discuss the Palestinians

situation in the occupied Arab territories and the southern Lebanese camps.

Meanwhile, the Fatah Central Committee will resume its meetings on 22 August. The meetings had begun on 20 July. The committee will discuss a number of Palestinian issues. Palestinian sources explained that the meetings of the Fatah Revolutionary Council will be held following the Central Committee meetings. The meetings' participants will be acquainted with the Central Committee's report, particularly issues related to Fatah's internal affairs.

Four Palestinian Groups Reject Call for Meeting
JN141817 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1730 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] The four Palestinian organizations that did not participate in the latest PNC session in Algiers have refused to participate in the PLO Central Council meeting, scheduled to be held in Tunis within 2 weeks. PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih issued a call to this effect addressed to all Palestinian organziations, but the four organizations rejected the call in separate statements issued by their leaderships in Damascus. The four organizations, which are members of the PNSF, are the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front, the Al-Sa'iqah [Popular Liberation War Vanguards] Organization, the PFLP-GC, and the Fatah dissident group of Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muraghah].

Palestinian Group Attacks Haifa Navy Building
JN151727 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 15 Aug 87

["Text" of communique issued by the military spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command; date and place not given]

[Text] In implementation of orders, at dawn on 14 August 1987 a special group of the martyr hero Abu Yusuf al-Najjar unit managed to arrive at the set target area after bypassing all Zionist security measures. The group planted highly explosive charges inside a Zionist Navy building at the entrance to the occupied port of Haifa. Our heroes then successfully left the area according to the plan.

At 0500 yesterday, explosions were heard in several areas of Haifa and a large fire erupted in the building. Attempts by the Zionist firemen to prevent the fire from spreading had not succeededas of 1000 yesterday when this communique was prepared. Enemy material losses are estimated at millions of shekels, and casualties are estimated at five, including three Zionist firemen.

Revolution until victory!

Iran's Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam in Algiers for Visit

Arrives 15 Aug

LD151920 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Iranian deputy foreign minister, arrived in Algiers today carrying a message from President 'Ali Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic of Iran for Chadli Bendjedid, the president of the Republic and secretary general of the party.

Holds Talks With Ibrahimi

LD160715 Tehran IRNA in English 0704 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Algiers, Aug 16, IRNA — Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam arrived here Saturday carrying a message from President 'Ali Khamene'i for President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria.

While in Algeria, Sheykh ol-Eslam will discuss bilateral relations as well as recent developments in the Persian Gulf in the light of the presence there of the warships of the U.S. and its allies.

The Iranian official met Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi Saturday night and handed over President Khamene'i's message to the Algerian president.

Referring to the recent massacre of Iranian and non-Iranian hajj pilgrims by Saudi police, Sheykh ol-Eslam proposed formation of an Islamic body to investigate the magnitude of the crime and release its findings for the information of the world people.

Meanwhile, Ibrahimi deplored the Mecca massacre and said that the Algerian people were deeply grieved by the catastrophic incident.

Hailing mutual efforts to expand bilateral relations, the Algerian foreign minister called for further exchange visits between officials of the two countries.

The two sides also reviewed recent developments in the Persian Gulf as well as the situation in Western Sahara and in the Middle East.

Earlier on Friday Sheykh ol-Eslam hand-delivered President Khamene'i's message to the Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Discusses Gulf With Messaadia

LD162114 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and head of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee, received Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, deputy foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at the party headquarters this morning.

The meeting provided an opportunity for the two sides to review the various aspects of the current situation in the Gulf, as well as the latest developments in the region. The two sides also exchanged views on various topical events related to the situation in the Muslim and Arab world in particular and those connected with the present world situation in general. Discussion at the meeting centered on the main topical issue [as heard].

The meeting was attended by Brother Sadek Zouaten, member of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee in charge of the Council of Friendship and Solidarity with the Peoples.

Views Saudi 'Crime'

LD170756 Tehran IRNA in English 0710 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] Algiers, Aug 17, IRNA — Visiting Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam held talks with member of the Secretariat of the Political Bureau of Front de Liberation Nationale (FLN) of Algeria Mohamed Cherif Messaadia here Sunday to discuss the massacre of pilgrims in Mecca by Saudi police, the situation in the Persian Gulf and Middle East as well as bilateral relations.

Elaborating on the Saudi dynasty crime, Sheykh ol-Eslam said that Iran believes that the Saudis committed this crime both to prevent Muslims from declaring their antipathy towards pagans as well as to whitewash the request of the regional governments of the U.S. to be present in the Persian Gulf and "its shameful defeats."

Sheykh ol-Eslam stressed that the Mecca disaster demonstrated the inefficiency of the Saudis to minister to the affairs of the two sanctuaries in Mecca and Medina and it seems that a board of Muslim ulema should be established to decide the future management of 'Haramain Sharifain'.

Messaadia said in response that Algeria considers the "painful incident as a black spot in the history of Islam" and that it sympathizes with hajj pilgrims.

He also said that God will punish the oppressers and will revenge them here and in the hereafter.

On the Palestine question Sheykh ol-Eslam said that armed struggle against the Zionist entity is the only solution and "we will concentrate all our efforts on this matter."

Messaadia stated that the Palestinian nation is the victim of a plot the aim of which is all regional nations. Emphasizing the Islamic aspect of Palestine he added that "this front against Israel should be kept open by strengthening Palestine, Lebanese and Syrian resistance."

President Habre Prepared To Discuss Libyan Claims

AB151837 Paris AFP in French 1725 GMT 15 Aug 87

[By Christian Millet]

[Text] Chadian President Hissein Habre stated today he is prepared to "discuss Libya's territorial claims" but reaffirmed that the Aozou Strip, located at the border between the two countries, belongs to Chad.

During an interview with AFP's special correspondent, who asked him whether the 112,000-square-km Strip, which Libya has claimed and occupied since 1973, was negotiable, President Habre answered: "We do not intend to cede our country to Libya." He added: "We are not, however, refusing to discuss Libya's claim. It is necessary to talk, and talk about everything."

The Chadian head of state explained that it was "not only Aozou that was in question, but all the rest of Chad." He recalled that Libyan troops had occupied almost all of Chad's territory from the end of 1980 to the end of 1981. He additionally noted that Libyan forces had also occupied some 500,000 square km of the nation's northern territory, more than one-third of the country, until the Chadian Army drove them out at the start of this year. "Libya," he said "desires to annex Chad so as to make it a satellite state."

"The war" he insisted, "did not begin on 8 August 1987, the date Aozou was recaptured by Chadian forces. In fact, Libya has never stopped waging war against Chad. It is a fact that must, all the same, be taken into account," he continued.

"Our differences with Libya must be resolved through dialogue," President Habre stated, adding: "We are open to dialogue, we have always accepted all initiatives aimed at concluding the conflict and finding a peaceful solution, we have personally and constantly made initiatives toward Libya, but that nation has always failed to respond."

"Libya is the aggressor country. We are acting in self-defense," he stressed. "We remain within the internationally recognized borders inherited from the colonial period." The OAU Charter, to which Libya is a signatory country, has adopted respect for these borders as a key principle, the president pointed out.

President Hissein Habre reaffirmed that Libya had resumed its offensive on 8 August after amassing troops at the two countries' border and in Chad's far north. According to the president, these (?troops) were deployed during the weeks following defeats suffered by Libya in January through March 1987 in northern Chad.

"The battle has forced the Libyan forces to flee to Aozou, which we have liberated by pursuing them. We are at home in Aozou, 100 km away from the internationally recognized border," the president said, before wondering: "What, then, is the problem?"

FANT Communiques Detail 14 Aug Libyan Aozou Actions

Communique No 70

AB141917 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1850 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Communique No 70 issued by the FANT High Command on 14 August in Ndjamena]

[Text] Libyan forces today, 14 August 1987, launched [words indistinct] by land and air on the locality of Aozou. As can be expected, our courageous freedom fighters' sharp and striking riposte was such that the enemy was repulsed. The outcome of this battle will be reported to you later.

Courageous FANT elements, hold high the flag of victory!

With courage and perseverance, victory is ours!

Communique No 71

AB150733 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 15 Aug

[Communique No 71 issued by the FANT High Command in Ndjamena; date not given]

[Text] (?After) the bloody land and air attacks launched today by the Libyan invaders against our liberated Aozou position, and after our valiant and intrepid fighters had swiftly repulsed the invaders, these barbaric Libyans again counterattacked on this very day of 14 August 1987, at 1100 local time. They attacked using land and air forces, employing napalm bombs [words indistinct]. However, (?these attacks) were repulsed. Here is the outcome of that fighting:

On the enemy side, more than 150 Libyan bodies were counted, and 48 Libyans taken as prisoners of war. The following equipment was captured: [figure indistinct] Toyotas equipped with 14.5-mm guns; (?4) Toyotas equipped with surface-to-surface missiles; 2 (?21-mm) bombs; 3 jeeps equipped with 106-mm guns; and 15 Toyota troop carriers.

On the FANT side, we regret that one martyr fell gloriously on the battlefield and that 16 soldiers were wounded. The following equipment was destroyed: [Words indistinct] one Toyota equipped with [words indistinct]; two Toyota troop carriers.

Freedom fighters, stand ready; always forward! No matter what happens, victory is ours!

Communique No 72
AB152122 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Communique No 72 issued by the FANT High Command in Ndjamena on 15 August]

[Text] As announced yesterday, Libyan aggressor troops attacked Aozou District on two occasions by land and air. Here are the final results of the fighting on 14 August 1987:

On the enemy side: 170 libyan soldiers killed; 54 captured as prisoners of war.

Equipment captured: 3 BM-21 [122-mm multiple rocket system] vehicles seized; 113 jeeps equipped with 106-mm guns captured; 19 Toyota vehicles equipped with 14.5-mm guns captured; 8 Toyota vehicles equipped with surface-to-surface [missiles] captured; and 25 Toyota troop carriers captured.

Equipment destroyed: 2 BM-21 vehicles destroyed; 6 106-mm guns destroyed; 13 Toyota vehicles equipped with 14.5-mm guns destroyed; 1 Toyota equipped with surface-to-surface [missiles] destroyed; 3 Toyota transport carriers destroyed.

Forward march, freedom fighters! The enemy is at bay! Victory is ours!

Radio Commentary on Libyan 'Expansionist Policy'
AB161116 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Libya has declared open war against our country. There is no better name for what is currently taking place in the north of our country. After its planes dropped fragmentation and napalm bombs over the past few days, Libya yesterday launched a combined land and air attack. All of this is coupled with diplomatic moves that leave no doubt as to Libyan intentions. As for this war, here is a commentary by Moussa Dabo.

[Dabo] This is the first time since its defeat in Aozou 1 week ago that Libya has embarked on a military action by land. This action ended in another failure. Until this point, Libya had continuously carried out air raids on the northern part of Chad, strikes that resulted in the destruction of part of Aozou. The Libyan attack was preceded by serious military preparations and bellicose statements. The Libyan Army contingents in [words indistinct] Sidra and Sebha were considerably reinforced with both men and weapons, including bomber aircraft.

The Libyan ambassador in Paris, Hamed al-Khudayri, has additionally asserted that his nation rejects any sort of mediation concerning Aozou and is determined to use all means to recapture this region belonging to Libya. We will drive them out of Aozou and will attack their reinforcements, wherever they are coming from, he said.

For their part, the Chadians have now been in Aozou for 1 week and intend to remain there. This is because as President Hissein Habre explained to the 23d OAU summit in Addis Ababa, this territory has at no time in history belonged to Libya. The head of state supported his statement with the OAU ad hoc committee's report, which recognized that Chadian arguments are justified, pertinent, and irrefutable. Libya's claims, the president added, are in reality pretexts aimed at masking its ambitious and expansionist policy.

Tripoli is currently using all means possible to carry out this policy — daily bombardments, joint land and air attacks, the use of napalm and toxic gases, and so on and so forth. In fact, the Libyan authorities have admitted to the attacks launched by their Air Force against towns in northern Chad. This demonstrates that Tripoli not only rejects all attempts at dialogue, but henceforth intends to wage total war, no matter what the consequences may be. [passage indistinct]

The Libyans intend to wage total war against Chad, but they will be crushed as they were in Fada, Ouadi Doum, Faya-Largeau, and then recently at Aozou. The Libyan slave traders who ventured into Aozou, which was freed the previous weekend, have learned a lesson. Once again, the FANT's counterattack was devastating, as the FANT High Command's Communique No 72 indicates.

...rak Addresses University Students in Ismailia
...1525 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] During his meeting with young people participating in the ...rsities week being held at the Suez Canal University in ...ilia, President Husni Mubarak highlighted Egypt's ...vements since it began pursuing a policy of long-term ...ing a few years ago. He reviewed all of the achievements ...ave been attained in the various sectors of the national ...my. This was disclosed by Information Minister Safwat ...arif.

...arif said that President Mubarak stressed the importance ... public sector. He described it as the Egyptian people's ... valve that prevents the return of monopoly capitalism, ... is seeking to take power.

...arif said that President Mubarak used figures to explain ...imits of the government's ability to provide subsidies to ...come people. The president also touched on the govern...'s policy with regard to basic services, including its policy ...oviding job opportunities, promoting education, and main...ng the principle of free education. The president also noted ...fforts being made to strike a steady balance betw:en wages ...prices.

...arif noted that President Mubarak had referred to the ...mstances and challenges confronting the Arab nation and ... national security as a result of the negative effects of the ...-Iraq war, in light of the absence of a sincere and enlightened ... role capable of overcoming the differences and facing up ... dangers.

...ident Mubarak expounded on the incidents at the Islamic ... places in Mecca. He noted that Egypt had declared its ...emnation of these irresponsible actions which only served to ...d the reputation of Islam and Muslims. He said that Egypt ... been in constant contact with fraternal Saudi Arabia during ... incidents. He pointed to Egypt's request for the convocation ...n Islamic summit conference to discuss the grave acts of ...ression in Mecca.

...Sharif said that Mubarak answered young peoples' questions ...he Gulf war, the Palestinian issue, and Egyptian-Arab rela..., primarily the fraternal relations between Egypt and Sudan. ...addedthat President Mubarak had declared that there will ...er be any foreign military bases on Egyptian territory.

...n Ghazalah on Joint Maneuvers, Nuclear Arms
...C161545 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic ...0 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, ...nty prime minister and minister of defense and war produc..., has declared that Egypt is ready to conduct joint maneuvers ... any Arab country that requests it. He noted that Egypt will ...duct such maneuvers with Jordan this year.

In a statement following a meeting with officers from the 2d Field Army today, Abu Ghazalah said that Egypt benefits from joint training with U.S. forces in view of the latter's huge resources. Concluding his statement, he noted that Egypt sets the date and makes plans for these joint maneuvers.

Responding to a question on Egypt's plan to manufacture arms, Abu Ghazalah reported that Egypt has received a licence from the United States to manufacture the (TBF-63) set [not further identified], which is the most modern of its type. Production of this set, which is currently under way in Egypt, is viewed as a tremendous technological development. He noted that the production of M-1 tanks in Egypt is a vital goal for national security and is economically sound because it would result in a 25 percent saving compared to the cost of purchasing them from abroad.

On Egypt's nuclear policy, Abu Ghazalah said: We are opposed to nuclear arms. Egypt has signed the nuclear nonproliferation treaty. He added: Egypt considers the introduction of nuclear arms to the Middle East to be a serious matter.

Abu Ghazalah's remarks came following a meeting with commanders and officers from the 2d Field Army. He discussed plans and progress of work in the Army and listened to views and proposals from a number of commanders and officers.

War Production Minister Returns From U.S., UK
NC170750 Cairo MENA in English 2220 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, Aug 16 (MENA) — Eng. Jamal al-Din al-Sayyid Ibrahim, minister of state for war production, returned here from London tonight at the end of a ten-day visit to the United States and Britain.

During his visit to the United States, he discussed practical steps of Egyptian manufacturing of the U.S. "M-1" tank, especially in the light of the U.S. Administration's initial approval of its production in Egypt, and after the general construction works of the factory set for production thereof are nearing completion.

'Abd al-Majid Confers With U.S. Envoy Cluverius
NC161528 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1448 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, 16 Aug (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met today with Watt Cluverius, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for Middle East affairs, who is currently visiting Cairo. U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Frank Wisner also attended the meeting. The U.S. envoy briefed 'Abd al-Majid on all recent U.S. contacts to boost the peace efforts in the Middle East, particularly the efforts made by Charles Hill, U.S. assistant secretary of state, during his recent visit to Israel.

3 Suspects in Isma'il Attack Escape Police
NC151507 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, 15 Aug (MENA) — The police have succeeded in identifying the culprits who had attempted to assassinate

Muhammad al-Nabawi Isma'il, former deputy prime minister and interior minister. At dawn today, the police raided the den in which they had hidden themselves; namely, a house in Al-Kharaqaniyah in the Al-Qanatir al-Khayriyah District. They exchanged gunfire with the three culprits who were inside the house at the time. The wanted men succeeded in escaping, however, as a result of the policemen's desire not to endanger the safety of innocent people in the area.

The police searched the house and discovered hand grenades, a 7.62-mm automatic rifle, a 9-mm pistol, a large quantity of bullets, and magazines of the same caliber for automatic rifles. The stolen automobile used in the attack was also found. A Samsonite briefcase was discovered inside the automobile. It contained 5,000 pounds and three letters, one of which was addressed to Muhammad al-Nabawi Isma'il and said: "We carried out the operation and you will not escape from us." Some spent 7.62-mm cartridges also were found together with drawings and papers related to meetings and plans for implementing this terrorist plot.

Policeman Hamadah Salamah Hamad was martyred in the operation and three other officers were slightly injured.

The police have succeeded in identifying the three culprits. One of them works as a heavy machines driver, the second owns a poultry shop, and the third is a doctor. They are all under 30 years of age.

Suspects Named; Reward Offered

NC151707 Cairo MENA in English 1635 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, Aug 15 — (MENA) — [Passage omitted] The Interior Ministry has revealed the names of the three gunmen who attacked the house of former Interior Minister al-Nabawi Isma'il and distributed their photos.

They are as follows: First defendant Muhammad Kazim 'Abd al-Qawi Muhammad a driver who worked at sanitary drainage projects. He is born in May 1961 in Rawd al-Faraj. He uses another false identity card under an alias Lutfi Ahmad al-Sayyid Abu al-'Aynayn, born in February 1965 in Cairo.

Second defendant: Yusri 'Abd al-Munim 'Ali, a poultry shopkeeper in Imbabah north east of Al-Jizah, born in March 1959.

Third defendant: Haidi Zaynuhum al-Sifti, a pediatrician born in December 1958, lives in Rawd al-Faraj Shubra.

A large amount of money was allocated for any person who gives information which would lead to the capture of the fugitives.

'Free Officers' Claim Attack

NC170802 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 16 Aug 87 p 2

[Text] The office of the *Al-Khalij* newspaper in Cairo received ananonymous telephone call on Friday evening [14 August]. The caller said that he was speaking on behalf of Colonel F.A. of the Free Officers Organization and claimed the organization's responsibility for the assassination attempt against Al-Nabawi Isma'il.

The newspaper's employees have conveyed the full details of the call to the appropriate departments of the Interior Ministry.

AL-AHRAM Denounces Al-Qadhdhafi Policy on Chad

NC150537 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, 14 Aug (MENA) — The newspaper *Al-Ahram* has denounced Libyan Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's stand of rejecting all appeals to settle the Chadian issue peacefully through negotiations. The paper says that Al-Qadhdhafi is still shedding his people's blood in voracious raids and campaigns against Chad as if he were longing for a third crushing defeat.

In its Saturday edition, the paper asserts that for the second time this year Al-Qadhdhafi's forces are being dealt a major defeat in Chad. The battlefront has witnessed military scandals by the colonel's forces, whose only hope has been to flee the hot battle scenes after hundreds were wounded, abandoning arms and equipment worth millions of dollars, and proving the devastating failure of the "brave leader's" strategy.

Al-Ahram notes that despite the rights which Al-Qadhdhafi claims in the Aozou Strip, this situation is one of a number of border disputes in Africa. While the OAU has succeeded in settling some of these disputes, the paper adds, Al-Qadhdhafi has not heeded any of the appeals of the past 14 years to settle this problem peacefully.

Al-Qadhdhafi, the paper continues, has deliberately carried out incursions in Chadian territories in hostile adventures defying both the world and African communties, alleging that he has done so in response to calls by an official party. However, Al-Qadhdhafi's allegation was disproved by the national cohesion of all Chadian factions after his expansionist colonialist aims were exposed. As a result, the paper adds, Al-Qadhdhafi was driven out ignonimously for the first time early this year. He is now being driven back a second time in disgrace.

Iran's Sheykh ol-Eslam Continues Tripoli Visit

Confers With Foreign Secretary

LD132228 Tripoli Voice of the Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2200 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] The brother secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison conferred this evening with Brother Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, the Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister, who is currently on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

Meets Al-Qadhdhafi, Conveys Message

NC150615 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, Mr Sheykh ol-Eslam, our deputy foreign minister for political affairs, met with Libyan leader Colonel al-Qadhdhafi in Tripoli yesterday. He presented him with a written message from President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i on the horrific massacre of our pilgrims by the American-Saudi regime in the sanctuary of the house of God.

During this meeting, Col al-Qadhdhafi reiterated his praise for the spectacular Islamic Revolution of Iran. He said: We are proud of this revolution; we are proud of the valor of the revolutionary Iranian nation in confronting global arrogance and the Iranian nation's devotion in supporting Islam and Muslims. Al-Qadhdhafi added: Since the initial victory of the Islamic revolution, the Muslim Iranian nation has selflessly and devotedly offered great services for the liberation of Muslims and oppressed nations from the yoke of arrogance and dependent regimes.

The Libyan leader referred to the beastly attack by the Saudi regime on the pilgrims to the house of God, strongly reiterating the statements he made in this regard during an earlier meeting with our country's ambassador. He condemned the dependent criminals who savagely attacked the defenseless pilgrims within the sanctuary of the house of God. He stated: Efforts should be made to see that this deplorable tragedy leads to changes in the way the holy shrines are administered to ensure that no specific government controls these holy centers and that the world's Muslims can perform their hajj pilgrimage freely. Col al-Qadhdhafi also reiterated the need to free the holy shrines from the domination of the Saudi kings and for joint Islamic administration of these holy centers. He said: It is illogical that in a country where omnipotence and grandeur should belong only to God, kings, one after the other, claim grandeur, omnipotence, and rule over the house of God.

The Libyan leader referred to the history of the Arabian Peninsula and to the past administration of the Ka'bah. He asserted: We Muslims should not allow the presence of heathens and pagans like the Americans and British on the Arabian Peninsula. If the Saudi regime does not have the power to eliminate that presence, it should withdraw so that the Muslims of the world can do so.

Col al-Qadhdhafi cited the Saudis' false and extensive propaganda distorting their crimes in Mecca and emphasized the need to further inform the Muslim masses.

In conclusion, the Libyan leader referred to the maniacal military expedition by the United States and its allies in the Persian Gulf. He cited the support of the Libyan nation and leadership for all aspects of the Islamic Republic of Iran's confrontation with arrogance.

Departs Tripoli 14 Aug

LD141721 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1625 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, 14 Aug (JANA) — Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam left Tripoli this evening at the end of his visit to the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Mauritanian President's Envoy Arrives for Visit

Received by Al-Qadhdhafi

LD131959 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has received Brother Mohamed Mahmoud Ould Widadi, the envoy of President Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

Departs Tripoli 16 Aug

LD161754 Tripoli JANA in English 1623 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, August 16, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Mohamed Mahmoud Ould Widadi, the emissary of the Mauritanian President Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, left Tripoli this morning.

Before he left Libya, the Mauritanian emissary lauded the deep fraternal relations linking the Arab people in Great Jamahiriyah and Mauritania. He added that his visit enabled him to see the colossal achievements realised, in all fields, in Great Jamahiriyah thanks to the Al-Fateh revolution.

Al-Mahdi Receives Libyan Official, Message
JN151445 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Aug (SUNA) — Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi received a verbal message from Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on mutual cooperation between the Libyan Jamahiriyah and Sudan. The message was conveyed by Ahmad Muhammad Ibrahim, secretary of the General People's Committee for Education and Scientific Research in the Jamahiriyah, when Al-Mahdi received him here today.

In a press statement, Ahmad Muhammad Ibrahim said he and Al-Mahdi also discussed the possibility of providing aid for some Sudanese educational needs.

It is noteworthy that Ahmad Muhammad Ibrahim arrived in the country Thursday, the day before yesterday, on a visit lasting several days, to discuss educational matters between the two countries.

Assembly Member Denies Presence of Libyan Troops
JN161121 Khartoum SUNA in English 1017 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Khartoum, Aug 16 (SUNA) — Member of the Constituent Assembly 'Ali Adam Ibrahim denied any presence of Libyan armed troops in the Sudanese territories and described recent reports on this issue as baseless.

In a statement to the daily *Al-Siyasah* published here today, Ibrahim described the security situation in western Sudan as stable.

It is worth noting that another member of the Assembly affirmed recently the presence of Libyan troops in western Sudan.

Council of Ministers Condemns Iran for Mecca Events
JN151002 Khartoum SUNA in English 0928 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Khartoum, Aug 15 (SUNA) — The Council of Ministers adopted a resolution in its meeting yesterday by condemning Iran regarding the recent events carried out by the Iranian pilgrims in Mecca Saudi Arabia.

The Council further denied recent statements by an Iranian delegation which visited the country recently that Sudan supports the Iranian stance concerning the said incident.

Foreign Minister Urges Better Ties With Ethiopia
JN161429 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Aug (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Muhammad Tawfiq stated that the atmosphere of mistrust prevailing between two neighbors, Sudan and Ethiopia, should be removed. He added that a new leaf in relations between them should be turned over. He said that their ties should be based on understanding, mutual respect, and good-neighborliness.

In a statement to the newspaper *Al-Maydan* — mouthpiece of the Sudanese Communist Party — the minister said he held talks with Ethiopian officials when he attended the OAU conference in Addis Ababa. Tawfiq also said that he informed them that Sudan is ready for dialogue and understanding in order to define points of contention between the two sides and ways to solve them. It would also be a way to stop the useless accusations. He added that joint action is necessary to remove the problem of mistrust. Tawfiq said he was optimistic about the results of his talks with Ethiopian officials. He said that these talks must be exploited to improve relations and restore confidence between the two countries.

On the other hand, *Al-Maydan* said high-level contacts are expected to take place in the coming phase until September, when an extraordinary African summit will be held to tackle the debt issue. These contacts are designed to bring about a high-level dialogue between Sudan and Ethiopia to settle their differences. The paper also said important decisions are expected to be issued on Tuesday concerning Sudan's foreign policy. These decisions are also expected to deal in particular with Arab and African relations, and they are expected to concern the adoption of clear steps in Sudan's policy on these two levels and on the international level in general.

Health Minister Resigns Over Coalition Crisis
JN161116 Khartoum SUNA in English 1010 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Khartoum, Aug 16 (SUNA) — Health Minister Dr. Husayn Abu Salih has resigned from his ministerial position, confirmed Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi. Al-Mahdi said that he considered the resignation an expression of anger against the recent crisis between the two ruling parties, the Democratic Unionist Party and the Al-Ummah Party of Premier al-Mahdi.

It is worth noting that Abu Salih was the minister of health during the transitional period which followed the April uprising. He joined the Democratic Unionist Party, "DUP", and became minister of health.

SUNA To Begin 3-Day General Strike 22 Aug
JN151842 Khartoum SUNA in English 1720 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Khartoum, Aug 15 (SUNA) — The *Sudan News Agency* (SUNA) personnel will enter a three day general strike effective as from next Saturday 22nd of this Aug, the grouping of the SUNA staffers announced today.

The strike was generated by the "reluctance" of the SUNA management and the Culture and Information Ministry to respond to the demands raised by the staffers, a statement by the grouping said. The grouping pointed out that work will be stopped during extra working hours, and official holidays.

All trade union branches in SUNA will be fully engaged in the strike which will affect all public and mass media here.

INTER-GULF AFFAIRS

Swedish-Owned Ship Sinks; 1 Dead, 5 Missing

LD151559 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1445 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] The vessel that struck a mine this morning and sank in the Gulf of Oman belonged to the Swedish-managed Gulf Agency Company. Of the 11 crew members aboard, the Indian first engineer has died and 5 others have been reported missing. Here is a report from Titti Nylander in Nicosia:

The 40-meter-long motor vessel *Anita* was totally destroyed and sank immediately just after 1200 local time today. The transport boat belonged to the Swedish-managed shipping firm Gulf Agency Company. The company has a Swedish board of directors and is the largest of its kind in the Middle East. Although completely Swedish-owned, the vessel was leased to various persons in the Arab Emirates while its operation remained under Swedish control.

Director Frans Malmroos, who is responsible for operations, has traveled to Al-Fujayrah, which was the home port of the destroyed boat. From there, Frans Malmroos told us that the catastrophe indicates that the waters are not free of mines and that minesweeping the area is an urgent matter. As recently as yesterday evening, the Coast Guard announced that the waters were safe following minesweeping operations over the last few days.

However, in the wake of today's accident, a new warning has been issued to seagoing traffic to remain at a distance of 18 km from anchorage places where mines have been found. At least three mines have been discovered in sea lanes since a U.S. supertanker struck a mine in the waters last Monday [10 August].

The vessel *Anita* sank today while carrying supplies and crew to tankers serviced by the Swedish-run shipping company. Director Malmroos said from Al-Fujayrah that four of those aboard were South Koreans on their way out to sign on with a tanker. One of the Koreans is missing. Of the *Anita*'s crew of seven, one was an Englishman and the others were Indian. The Indian first engineer has died, and four other crew members are missing. The *Anita* was blown to bits at the same time that an Iranian naval unit was carrying out minesweeping maneuvers in the vicinity in international waters. Iran has offered assistance in minesweeping where mines have been located during the week, but the coastal Arab Emirates have declined the Iranian offer.

'Suicide Speedboat' Suspected

JN151250 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] A supply ship owned by a local company, believed to be Omani, sank today following an explosion after the vessel struck a floating mine not far from the port of Al-Fujayrah. Four of the ship's crew are feared dead. Rescue teams were not able to save all the ship's crew.

Regional shipping sources have discounted reports that the disaster occurred due to a mine. They believe the explosion was due to other causes, including a possible attack by a suicide speedboat deployed by Iran in the area.

Six Rescued After Sinking

JN151400 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1336 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Al-Fujayrah, 15 Aug (WAKH) — A responsible source at the UAE's Al-Fujayrah Port has stated that 13 people were aboard the supply ship that sank near Al-Fujayrah Port this afternoon after it struck a sea mine. He added that six individuals were rescued: One of them died, and another is in critical condition.

In a statement carried by WAM, the source also said that the individuals aboard the ship, which is owned by a Gulf company, included seven Indians, four Koreans, and the captain, who is British.

KUWAIT

Charge d'Affaires, Diplomat Back From Tehran

LD151722 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1633 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Kuwait, 15 Aug (KUNA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received in his office at the Foreign Ministry at 1730 today Kazim Ma'rifi, the Kuwaiti charge d'affaires in Tehran, and Yusuf 'Abd al-Rahim, a diplomat at the Embassy, following their return from Tehran this afternoon.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad listened to their detailed report on the circumstances surrounding the storming and occupation of the Kuwaiti Embassy in Tehran on 1 August.

It should be noted that the Kuwaiti Embassy in Tehran is still occupied by Iranian elements.

Iranian Minesweeping 'Cover' for Mining Operations

LD150909 Kuwait KUNA in English 0826 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 15 (KUNA) — A local daily Saturday [15 August] charged that Iranian maneuvers in the Gulf served as a cover for mining the Gulf's entrances and waters.

Al-Ra'y al-'Amm noted that planting mines in the Arabian Gulf and Gulf of Oman has coincided with Iranian naval exercises. This indicates that these exercises "served as a cover for mining" activity and a shift from the tankers war to the "mines war."

The newspaper noted in this respect that the Pentagon had accused Iran of mining entrances to the Arabian Gulf.

The newspaper also stated, while calling for another binding Security Council resolution to complement Resolution No 598 stipulating an immediate cease-fire in the Iraq-Iran conflict, that

the Security Council should additionally exert efforts to prevent the war's expansion and internationalization.

The daily charged Iran with provoking the United States, the UK, France, and the USSR in a bid to internationalize its conflict with Iraq.

OMAN

Qabus To Provide Facilities for UK Minesweepers

LD161034 London SUNDAY TELEGRAPH in English 16 Aug 87 p 1

[By Simon O'Dwyer Russell and Donald MacIntyre]

[Text] The Sultan of Oman has agreed to provide limited basing facilities for the Royal Navy's minesweeping force which will leave for the Gulf this week, according to Omani military sources.

The decision came only hours after a Gulf-registered freighter, the *Anita*, was damaged by an Iranian mine in the mouth of the Gulf.

It follows several days of intense diplomatic activity aimed at securing overt Gulf state support for the British initiative before the departure of the four-ship minesweeping flotilla from Rosyth on Tuesday.

The support of Sultan Qabus is understood to fall short of what the Foreign Office was seeking. Omani military sources told *The Sunday Telegraph* that Royal Fleet Auxiliary ships supplying both the minesweeping force and the Armilla Patrol warships "would be welcome in Omani ports" but the Sultan has declined requests that the minesweepers themselves be based in Oman.

The Armilla Patrol warships, under the command of Captain Neil Rankin, currently replenish and fuel in Mombasa, Kenya. They have access to Gulf state ports only on occasions for operational turnrounds when accompanying merchant vessels up the Gulf.

Defence Ministry sources suggested that the departure for Oman this week of two RAF Nimrod maritime reconnaissance aircraft, on what the Ministry insists is a "routine exercise," may be a quid pro quo for Omani support for the Royal Navy's minesweeping operation.

The Defence Ministry refused to disclose the duration of the Nimrod deployment in Oman or under whose operational control the aircraft would fall when based at the Seeb military airfield outside Muscat.

Operating over the mouth of the Gulf, the two RAF Nimrods would provide the Omani Navy with a much-needed airborne reconnaissance capability over its area of operation.

Omani military officers did not rule out the possibility that the Nimrods may be used in "loose co-operation" with the five AWACS aircraft operated by Saudi Arabia to build-up a comprehensive "surface plot" of Gulf shipping. This would give Oman the ability to "do some preventive medicine by intercepting Iranian vessels which may be minelaying."

Britain is also locked in a wrangle between the Superpowers over whether the United Nations secretary general should be mandated to seek further negotiations with Iran in the hope of securing her acceptance of the ceasefire resolution of July 20.

The fragile unity of the permanent members of the Security Council is threatened because of moves by the Soviet Union and China to seek further talks with Iranian ministers before taking the next step of a full-scale arms embargo.

British ministers, with the backing of the United States and France, believe that while Iran has not formally rejected the resolution, it has done everything short of that, including heaping abuse on the role of the United Nations in the Gulf conflict.

British representatives in New York are arguing that any attempt to modify the resolution in an effort to win Iranian acceptance would be counterproductive.

Foreign Office sources said no British naval vessels would be risked on operational duties unless there was adequate shore support to ensure proper supplies. British diplomatic sources are privately critical of the Americans for reflagging merchant ships in the Gulf without first ensuring Kuwaiti basing facilities for military ships and helicopters.

Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati Pays 2-Day Visit

Makes Statement on Arrival

JN151204 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] His Excellency Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the Islamic Republic of Iran's foreign minister, arrived today on a visit to the Sultanate in response to a visit by His Excellency Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, to Tehran on 16 May.

In a statement to journalists upon his arrival, Velayati declared that he is carrying a message from His Excellency President 'Ali Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic of Iran to His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id. His excellency added that his visit to the Sultanate comes in response to an invitation from His Excellency Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs. His excellency the Iranian foreign minister pointed out that during his visit he will hold talks on bilateral relations and means of developing them, adding that the regional situation in general and current international issues will also be reviewed.

Upon arrival, His Excellency 'Ali Akbar Velayati was received by His Excellency Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; His Highness Haythan ibn Tariq al Sa'id, Foreign Ministry under secretary for political affairs; his excellency the Iranian charge d'affaires in Muscat; and a number of senior Foreign Ministry officials.

Meets With Sultan Qabus

NC160618 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Mr Velayati, our foreign minister, who is in Oman on an official visit, met and spoke with Shaykh Qabus, the sultan of Oman, yesterday. The report states that during this meeting, Mr Velayati conveyed a message from President Khamene'i to Shaykh Qabus and discussed regional issues and bilateral relations with him. According to the report, Mr Velayati referred to the two countries' historical and religious links. He also discussed both nation's interests and emphasized the need for cooperation and coordination between them on regional issues.

In another section of his remarks, our foreign minister referred to U.S. intervention in the region and to the presence of the U.S. fleet in the Persian Gulf. He stated: We have repeatedly stated that we desire calm in the region. However, if the United States wishes to threaten our interests, we will resist strongly.

The sultan of Oman then expressed his pleasure at the Iranian delegation's visit. He expressed his thanks for Mr Khamene'i's message and conveyed his greetings to him, then discussed bilateral relations and regional issues. Stressing the need to continue such visits, he stated: We are aware of the fact that the Persian Gulf is a strategic and important area, and we hope that it will be safe from foreign intervention and that security will be preserved. Shaykh Qabus concluded by pointing out: We know that the Islamic Republic of Iran's policy is not one of confrontation or causing tension in the region, and we want our relations with your country to expand further each day.

Holds Talks With Counterpart

LD161620 Tehran IRNA in English 1604 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 16, IRNA — Visiting Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati started the second round of talks with his Omani counterpart Yusuf ibn al-'Alawi 'Abdallah in Muscat Sunday [16 August].

During the meeting, Velayati said that Iran has no intentions of creating tension or launching aggression on any country but will strongly confront any one attempting to attack it.

Velayati also noted the Islamic Republic is against the spread of the Iraqi-imposed war whereas Saddam [Husayn of Iraq] is interested in involving other countries in the war he imposed on Iran because of his weakness. In this respect, he said, Kuwait cooperates with Iraq more seriously than others.

The Kuwaiti Government by inviting superpowers to interfere in the Persian Gulf has served to aggravate the already tense situation in the region, Velayati said, noting "the Islamic Republic is completely able to defend its interests against any foreign aggression."

On the July 31 Mecca carnage of pilgrims by Saudi police, Foreign Minister Velayati said that the tragedy proved that Saudi rulers are not qualified to be guardians of the holy sanctuaries in Mecca and Medinah or to host pilgrims. In addition, Velayati said, the Mecca massacre has helped heighten tension in the region.

In response, the Omani foreign minister emphasized on the "key and constructive" role of the Islamic Republic in the Persian Gulf, saying that his country supports Iran's stance on confronting any power attempting to turn the region into a scene of international struggles.

He also said that Oman believes that only regional countries particularly the Islamic Republic have the right to provide security for the region, noting "the nation and Government of Iran have an effective role in the region... any one who intends to contribute to restoring security in the region must completely respect Iran's role and interests."

The Omani foreign minister called for expansion of Tehran-Muscat relations.

Departs 16 Aug

JN161355 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] His Excellency Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the Islamic Republic of Iran's foreign minister, and his accompanying delegation departed this afternoon following a 2-day visit to the Sultanate. During his visit, Velayati had the honor of meeting with His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id. He also held talks with His Excellency Yusuf ibn al-'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, the minister of state for foreign affairs. Their talks dealt with relations between the two friendly countries and ways to promote and enhance them. They also reviewed the Gulf region's current situation in general and efforts to entrench regional security and stability.

The two sides additionally discussed a number of issues of mutual interest on the Islamic, Arab, and international levels.

The following saw off his excellency the Islamic Republic of Iran's foreign minister and his delegation: His Excellency Yusuf ibn al-'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; His Highness Haytham ibn Tariq ibn Taymur, Foreign Ministry under secretary for political affairs; His Excellency 'Ali ibn 'Abdallah al-Musafir, head of the Foreign Ministry Protocol Department; and his excellency the Iranian charge d'affaires in Muscat.

SAUDI ARABIA

Siege of Tehran Embassy Said To Be 'Lifted'

JN161420 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Marwan Bashir al-Rumi, the Saudi charge d'affaires in Tehran, has stated that the siege of the Saudi Embassy in Tehran will be lifted in the next few days.

In an interview published in *Arab News* and *Al-Sharq al-Awsat*, Al-Rumi adds that the Saudi diplomat who was injured when the Saudi Embassy in Tehran was stormed late last month will be transported to Saudi Arabia aboard a medical aircraft.

22 Reported Killed in Gas Plant Explosion

JN151114 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] An explosion occurred this morning in a Saudi gas plant on the Gulf coast near Bahrain. The blast started a huge fire and killed 22 persons. Initial reports suggest that the explosion was accidental.

Official on Al-Ju'aymah Fire

LD151100 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1037 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Riyadh, 15 Aug (SPA) — An official of the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources has issued the following statement:

At 0650 today, 15 August 1987, a fire broke out at the natural gas liquification plant at Al-Ju'aymah, in the eastern region. Four persons suffered burns, and the fire was extinguished. According to preliminary information, the fire is believed to have been caused by a power surge. More details will be released should more information be learned.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Ministry Responds to Iranian Memorandum on Mines

JN141825 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1750 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 14 Aug (WAKH) — The UAE Foreign Ministry has stressed that UAE territorial waters are almost clear of sea mines due to efforts by the Coast Guard and other competent UAE authorities.

In a memorandum to the Iranian Foreign Ministry replying to the memorandum that Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Shaykh Hamdan ibn Zayid received from the Iranian ambassador to the UAE last Wednesday [12 August], the UAE pointed out that the competent authorities will continue operations clearing UAE territorial waters to ensure that local and international navigation is free from any obstacles.

In its memorandum delivered to the Iranian ambassador to the UAE during his meeting with Sayf Sa'id, director of the GCC and the Foreign Ministry Gulf States Department, today, the Foreign Ministry expressed its appreciation for the Iranian Government's readiness to contribute to clearing UAE territorial waters of sea mines. It also stressed that all parties' efforts should focus on ending the rejected, destructive war between the two Muslim countries, Iraq and Iran, since this is the only means to frustrate all attempts to intefere in the Gulf region and disrupt its stability and security.

11 Iranians Attempt 'To Infiltrate'; Arrests Made

JN151922 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 14 Aug 87 p 2

[Text] Yesterday, one of the border and Coast Guard patrols in Dubayy captured a fiberglass boat on the high seas carrying 11 Iranian nationals while it attempted to infiltrate the nation. Nine of these persons were apprehended on charges of attempting to illegally enter the country. The vessel's officer, 'Abd Al-Rahman Habib, and sailor Ahmad 'Ali Hasan were accused of illegally transporting people into the country.

Two Mines Detonated Off Al-Fujayrah 16 Aug

JN161327 Manma WAKH in Arabic 1255 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Al-Fujayrah, 16 Aug (WAKH) — Two mines, discovered 4 miles north of Murbah on the eastern coast of Al-Fujayrah Amirate, were detonated this morning by a specialized section of the UAE Armed Forces. WAM stated that the area was surveyed and no other mines were discovered. Naval patrols are expected to be stepped up on various portions of the coast.

In another development, none of the bodies of the five missing individuals have been recovered so far. They were aboard a supply ship belonging to the Gulf Agency Company in Al-Fujayrah that sank after hitting a mine yesterday.

Further Reportage on Gulf Conflict Operations

Communique No 2,777 Issued

JN141629 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1600 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,777 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 14 August 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our victorious Armed Forces have continued their glorious defense of Iraq and its people's dignity, inflicting new losses on the aggressors with the following combat activities last night and today:

1. Our heroic Air Force challenged the enemy and its air defenses deep inside Iranian territory once again today. Our heroic Air Force hawks penetrated deep inside Iran and reached the Tabriz region in the northernmost section of Iran at 0850 [0450 GMT]. Our hawks dealt a devastating blow to a surface-to-air missile battery of the type delivered by the agents of Zionism to the Iranian regime. Our aircraft also carried out 70 combat missions today in which they killed several enemy scoundrels and destroyed their weapons, several vehicles, and additional equipment. After carrying out all these missions, our aircraft returned safely and triumphantly to base, God be praised.

2. Our helicopter gunships carried out 49 combat missions in which they inflicted losses on the enemy's weapons and equipment. After carrying out their missions, they returned safely to base, God be praised.

3. The valiant Al-'Amiq Port force spotted two enemy boats attempting to approach the loading platform. The vessels were confronted with all types of weapons and forced to flee.

4. One of our units in the I Army Corps northern sector fired on an enemy formation and killed 12 scoundrels, wounding others. Elsewhere in the same sector, a vehicle and a gun emplacement were destroyed and a medium machinegun was discovered.

5. An enemy soldier was killed, two ammunition dumps were detonated, a Poclain [preceding word in English] excavator and a vehicle were damaged, two positions were destroyed, and a 40-mm launcher and a 60-mm mortar were discovered in the II Army Corps central sector.

6. Three enemy soldiers were killed, three gun emplacements and a personnel shelter were destroyed, and an ammunition dump was detonated in the VII Army Corps sector.

7. A vehicle was destroyed, an ammunition dump was detonated, and two enemy soldiers were wounded in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 August 1987

Communique No 2,778 Issued

JN151646 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1600 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,778 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 15 August 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With the sacrifices of their brave men, our victorious Armed Forces will remain the homeland's bastion and protector of its soil, people, and the revolution's achievements. The following is a roundup of our brave units' activities for last night and today:

1. The aircraft of our brave Air Force carried out 62 combat missions against enemy concentrations, gun emplacements, and vehicles, inflicting further losses on them. Our aircraft then returned safely to their bases, God be praised.

2. The brave helicopter gunship knights carried out 64 combat missions, killing the scoundrels and destroying their equipment and positions. Our knights then returned safely to their bases in God's care.

3. Two enemy personnel were killed; one grader, one infantry position, and one enemy observation post were destroyed; and two vehicles were burned in the I Army Corps northern sector.

4. Two heavy machineguns and two infantry positions were destroyed and two ammunition dumps were detonated on the VII Army Corps front.

5. A large vehicle was damaged; one enemy observation post was destroyed; and two RPG-7 launchers, one Kalashnikov rifle, and one PKS medium machinegun were found in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

6. One enemy scoundrel was killed, one infantry position was destroyed, and one ammunition dump was detonated in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

7. Two enemy personnel were killed and two observation posts were destroyed in II Army Corps central sector.

8. One of the enemy was killed in the operational sector of the Special I Army Corps, the Allahu Akbar Forces.

9. One heavy machinegun was destroyed in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris.

10. Using long-range artillery, the renegade Tehran rulers shelled residential areas in the township of Qal'at Dizah and the city of Al-'Uzayr. The shelling damaged a number of houses and other property.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 August 1987

Downing of Helicopter Denied

JN160637 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0620 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Aug (INA) — Iraq has denied Iran's claims that it downed an Iraqi helicopter gunship yesterday.

In a statement to INA this morning, an Iraqi military spokesman declared that all Iraqi aircraft carrying out missions yesterday returned safely to base.

The spokesman challenged Iran's rulers to prove their claims.

Communique No 2,779 Issued

JN160924 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0826 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,779 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 16 August 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Many thanks to God; praise Him day and night. O proud Iraqis, at 0955 [0555 GMT] this morning, our aircraft flew deep inside enemy territory to once again direct their destructive blows against the pillars of aggression. The valiant hawks directed their unerring missiles at the pumping stations in Ahvaz oil fields Nos 1 and 2. After penetrating the enemy's defenses with their known skill, scoring direct hits against their targets, and observing the explosions, flames, and smoke from the struck targets, our hawks and their aircraft returned safely and victoriously to the homeland. They carried news of a new victory for Iraq's great people and inspired leader, as well as for the entire Arab nation.

O brother citizens, this measure comes as part of the practical embodiment of our people's will to punish the Iranian regime. This regime continues to insolently display its connection with world Zionism and its objectives — both ideologically and practically — and to express adherence to the spirit of hostility against our Iraqi people and the Arab nation. The Iranian regime also continues to express adherence to the abandonment of the international public opinion's unanimity — both governments and peoples — on the need to end the war. Our glorious Air Force's blows against the economic installations that are connected with the war effort, as well as all the blows directed by our valiant Armed Forces, will continue to be the only reply to those who refuse to accept truth and peace. There will be no reason to stop battering them until they respond to the international community's appeal for peace in a clear, official, and documented manner.

May God bless our heroic Air Force — commanders, hawks, officers, and other ranks. It is God who grants success and assistance.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 August 1987

Air Attacks on Iranian Residential Areas Denied

JN151642 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Aug (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied that the Iraqi Air Force attacked residential areas in Iran yesterday.

In a statement to INA this evening, the spokesman noted that the Iraqi Air Force's responsibilities were confined to striking at Iranian military positions on the battlefronts. He added: In making such false allegations Iran seeks to justify its crimes against Iraq's civilian population since Iran is still shelling Basra, Qal'at Dizah, and other Iraqi border towns almost daily.

AL-'IRAQ Denies Egypt Aided Missile Program

JN140751 Baghdad AL-'IRAQ in Arabic 12 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] In its 10 August issue, the Egyptian newspaper *Sawt Al-'Arab* published a report claiming that the surface-to-surface missile Iraq had launched on 4 August was produced with Egyptian military expertise. We refute this report. While doing so, we would like to emphasize that Iraq has always been creative and that this is its role.

We are proud of any cooperation with any of the Arab countries. We acknowledge that such cooperation is necessary in Arab life. However, while stating this, we would like to affirm that the newspaper's report is groundless.

The surface-to-surface missile was launched on 4 August 1987 as a result of purely Iraqi efforts. Neither Egypt nor any Arab or foreign party assisted Iraq in this endeavor.

Cabinet Postpones Decision on Future of Lavi

TA161428 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] The Cabinet has put off a decision on the future of the Lavi plane for 2 weeks. Following a meeting that lasted more than 6 hours, the prime minister and vice prime minister decided not to vote today but to continue to examine the various possibilities. Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres told our correspondent Shmu'el Tal that in his opinion the distribution of votes was going to be even — 12 in favor and 12 against — and that discussions should therefore continue. However, other ministers stressed to our correspondent that the opponents of the plan had a majority of two or three votes after Ministers Peretz and Tzur joined the opponents' camp.

Minister Rabin told our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami that the proposal that he and the finance minister had worked out had a majority. What has not been found through 2 months of intensive talks will not be found in the next 2 weeks, Rabin said, adding that the Cabinet exists in order to make decisions and should do so even if the decisions are difficult.

Finance Minister Moshe Nisim told our correspondent Me'ir Einstein that this delay on the decision is regrettable. The people were awaiting a decision, and there is no use in a postponement.

During the Cabinet meeting, the chief of staff said that the first squadron of Lavi aircraft would be operational only after more than 6 years, and any progress in the IDF would be frozen during that time. Lieutenant General Shomron noted that in contrast to the Lavi, the F-16C's and the alternatives would be given to the IDF in the shortest possible time and would guarantee the Army's power.

The heads of the Israeli Aircraft Industries [IAI] asked the Cabinet to allow the IAI every opportunity to introduce efficiency in its ranks and to enter a more limited and restricted operational framework. They noted that stopping the Lavi project would create an irreversible situation. Therefore, even the slightest possibility of saving the project should be examined.

Treasury Refuses Interim Funding

TA170625 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] The Treasury is refusing to give Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] interim financing for the Lavi project. This has been learned by our economic affairs correspondent Me'ir Einstein. Our correspondent notes that IAI has already used the semi-annual budget allocated for the project and now wants more financing. Treasury officials assess that the postponement in the government decision will waste approximately $20 million during the interim period until a final decision is made.

Debate To Resume 23 Aug

TA171115 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] The government will continue to discuss the Lavi project in its next session on Sunday [23 August]. This was announced by Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee after he had agreed on this with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Mr Peres said that from clarifications which he has received from Minister Hurvitz, it transpires that Hurvitz would have supported Peres' proposal regarding the Lavi and therefore there would have been a tie in the government yesterday. Peres hopes that by next Sunday his own proposal will gain a majority.

Shamir Interviewed on Lavi, U.S. Talks, Kahane

TA150840 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0705 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political editor Gid'on Remez on 15 August; place not given — recorded]

[Excerpt][Passage omitted][Remez] If, as I understand from you, your stand is still one of support for the continued production of the Lavi, how do you take the U.S. position into account?

[Shamir] Well, taking a position into consideration does not always mean acceptance of that position. We take our partner's position into account. We explain and will also perhaps try to find solutions that will be acceptable to it. This is not the first case in which our cooperation has been accompanied by disagreements.

[Remez] This week you spent quite a few hours with the U.S. secretary of state's envoy. First, did the Lavi matter on which you clearly disagree in any way cloud the cordial nature of relations between you and Mr Shultz?

[Shamir] I would say that the Lavi matter did not cloud nor disturb the friendly nature of the talks in Jerusalem.

[Remez] As for the major issue for which Mr Hill arrived in Israel, we received totally different signals not only from the ministries — which have different opinions on the peace process — but also now from Washington and Jerusalem. Is it indeed to be expected that Mr Shultz will raise the profile of his involvement in the Middle East? In which direction do you expect him to act?

[Shamir] I think that this entire argument about the degree of U.S. involvement in the Middle East is out of place. Both the United States and Israel are interested in U.S. participation in everything that takes place in our region. There was a great deal of talk lately as to whether Secretary of State Shultz will come or not. We will always welcome him and try to aid him just as he aids us. We have always discussed the means of U.S. diplomatic aid for the peace process. There are differences of opinion on this. The visit of Mr Hill, who is a very close aide to the U.S. secretary of state, should be seen in the context of the efforts being made to reach agreement on the ways that will lead us to peace in the Middle East.

[Remez] Following this effort, do you feel that your opinions have come closer together?

[Shamir] I think that this visit contributed to bringing views and opinions closer.

[Remez] I understand that the timing of Hill's visit was also connected to the upcoming talks between Secretary Shultz and his Soviet counterpart. Are you expecting, or have you received from the Americans, any hint on a change in or softening of the Soviet stance regarding Middle East political affairs?

[Shamir] We know what the Soviets' stance is at the moment. We cannot tell what their opinion will be after awhile, but certainly we discussed the Soviet stance extensively. I hope that the discussions will be useful.

[Remez] In your upcoming trip to Romania this week, do you see a possibility of raising again the issue of direct flights through Romania for the immigrants from the Soviet Union? This possibility arose some time ago, but seems to have been shelved at a certain stage.

[Shamir] This is surely called for. After all, we are on the same wavelength with Romania with regard to the issue of immigration. We have no complaints today about the Romanian Government or its president, Mr Ceausescu, who shows full understanding for the desire of his country's Jews to immigrate to Israel. This gives us a sort of a basis for a common language with regard to the immigration of Jews from other countries in East Europe. It is natural that I will have an opportunity to discuss the issue of Jewish immigration from the USSR.

[Remez] On the eve of the visit, were you made to understand that there is some hope in this direction?

[Shamir] There are chances and possibilities, and they should be investigated.

[Remez] Beside all the headlines on foreign policy matters this past week, we also had a story about the discovery of an armed youth camp associated with Rabbi Kahane in the Jerusalem forest. The question arising again concerns the Kahanist threat with regard to educating the youth. Did this trigger second thoughts in you as to how to cope with this issue?

[Shamir] My attitude toward this Kahane phenomenon is known. My views are known. However, I am sure that this phenomenon will disappear. Not too long ago the importance of this issue, and the dangers involved, were greatly exaggerated, but many were then convinced that the less we deal with this the less danger we will face. This is my opinion today, too. I believe that those who want to highlight this phenomenon should not be given the opportunity to stand out and increasingly appear on our television screen or in our press. The issue should not be exaggerated. Necessary measures should be taken to maintain the law, but I do not think we are facing any new danger.

[Remez] Finally, Mr Shamir, now that the threat or fear of the dissolution of the government and early elections is behind us, how do you see the national unity government's performance in the period ahead, with more than a year left for its existence?

[Shamir] I hope that attempts to topple and dissolve the government will not continue or recur. If they are repeated, I hope that they will fail again. I believe that for the government to function effectively on behalf of the country and its citizens, this should be stopped. We should return to a routine of cooperation and normal performance of the national unity government.

Comments on Romania Visit, Lavi

TA170601 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0405 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami in the prime minister's residence and David Grossman in the studio — live]]

[Text] [Ben-'Ami] Mr Prime Minister, good morning.

[Shamir] Good morning.

[Ben-'Ami] Let us start with your visit to Romania, which begins today. With regard to political issues, are you not afraid that the dialogue between you and President Ceausescu will be a dialogue between the deaf, considering Ceausescu's support for the idea of an international conference and your well-known opinion concerning this issue?

[Shamir] This is not the case. It is always very interesting to meet and speak with Romanian President Ceausescu. Mr Ceausescu has taken upon himself, in his international activity, to strengthen peace in the world. Wherever there is tension and sharp differences between various elements, he tries to raise and implement new ideas in order to decrease the tension and create an atmosphere that is more conducive to advancing peace. It will be interesting to hear from President Ceausescu whether or not there is any movement in the various circles with which we are in confrontation, whether or not there is movement among Arab circles or in the East European world...

[Ben-'Ami, interrupting] Perhaps in the PLO, with which he is closely associated?

[Shamir] I do not believe that there is any movement in the PLO, but we will certainly hear from Ceausescu about this as well. And we will naturally voice our reaction. This visit and these talks were initiated by the president, who is very familiar with my stand on various issues, and I do not believe that he is looking for a dialogue between the deaf or for impractical chitchat.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Prime Minister, with regard to bilateral relations, can we consider Romania as a possible trading partner? I understand that a very sensitive issue is to be raised: the issue of the adoption of Romanian children by Israeli families.

[Shamir] As for the issue of bilateral relations, particular importance should be given to the immigration of Jews, both the immigration of Romanian Jews — which on the whole is proceeding without hitches, according to agreements we have and thanks

to the goodwill evinced by President Ceausescu — and direct flights, or flights of Jews from the Soviet Union through Romania to Israel. This is an extremely important and vital thing for us. The president knows the importance of this issue. We will discuss how to advance it in order to increase the number of Jews coming to Israel. There are also other issues, such as trade relations with Romania. Romania has its difficulties, and we have ours. We should make a joint effort to overcome these problems and to increase our economic relations, despite Romania's difficulties.

[Grossman] Mr Shamir, with your permission I would like to move on to yesterday's vote on the Lavi. You and Mr Peres initiated the postponement of a decision on the plane. It is well-known that the defense establishment and the Treasury are against the project. Also, the United States has asked us to stop the project. All of them voiced logical and rational arguments against the Lavi, whereas you used the argument of national pride, the value of withstanding difficulties, and not surrendering. The question is: What is the weight of such emotional arguments against the arguments of the Treasury, the Defense Ministry, and the United States?

[Shamir] Look, I do not think that this is the right time to add more arguments or to renew the argument. In yesterday's government session, discussion on the Lavi ended. All the different aspects of the issue were heard. Everything was put before the ministers. It is possible that there are some more things that should be examined and clarified...

[Grossman, interrupting] If everything is clear, then why should the decision be postponed for 2 weeks?

[Shamir] I did not say that everything was clear. The decision has not been made yet. As the end of the discussion approached, the vice prime minister and I decided that it would be inappropriate for such an important issue to be decided by one vote or by a tie, which would also have been a decision. In such an important issue, it is proper to search for a solution that will be supported by a clear majority of the government. I think that this is legitimate and beneficial. I do not know what would have been the position, or reasoning, of all those who today express themselves sharply against the 1-2 week postponement had the government made a decision by a tie vote.

[Grossman] One of the arguments is that every day of the Lavi project costs the economy $1.5 million.

[Shamir] I am not familiar with the precise figures. Even if this is true, however, we are dealing with a project whose dimensions are vastly greater than several millions of dollars, although I do not make light of any sum. We should always weigh things one against the other, and I believe that this postponement of several days will prove to be correct.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Shamir, although you and other ministers take care to say that the Lavi decision is entirely Israeli, I assume that the State Department and Pentagon reactions — and we heard about this yesterday — have expressed impatience. Are we not giving the big American brother too much trouble?

[Shamir] I saw these reactions in newspaper headlines, but I read nothing of this in the actual content of the reports. I believe that there is enough patience in the United States; there is no impatience there. They know that the decision is difficult and that it should be an Israeli decision. I do not think that this postponement will have any influence at all on our relations.

[Grossman] The government discussed a plan to allocate $450 million to the Lavi, whereas the Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] has said that even $550 million will not suffice. Now you say that $350 million will do. Where do you think more cuts can be made?

[Shamir] I do not know where this sum of $350 million came from. After we asked the IAI to search for ways to become more efficient, it submitted a plan for $450 million a year. This is the proposal of the IAI. Earlier there had been talk of $550 million; that is, before steps were taken to become more efficient. Perhaps it is possible to become even more efficient and to save even more. This too will be examined during the time we have until the decision is made.

[Ben-'Ami] The director of the IAI yesterday said that he fears more cuts may cut off the wings of the Lavi.

[Shamir] I do not think that we will demand the impossible, but we will examine this. We should also examine the possibility of additional income from other sources. Several proposals were raised in the government yesterday. If, at the end of the time we have, we reach the conclusion that we can indeed find a better solution, we will raise it, and the government will vote according to its decision.

[Grossman] Mr Prime Minister, Yitzhaq Shamir, thank you and bon voyage.

Peres Aide Meets Soviet Officials in Bonn 16 Aug

TA171124 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] Dr Nimrod Novik, the foreign minister's political adviser, held a long meeting with Soviet officials in Bonn yesterday. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami has learned that the meeting lasted approximately 10 hours and centered on the international conference and peace issues. The Soviet team was led by (Vladimir Tarasov), one of the heads of the Middle East section in the Kremlin.

IDF Soldiers Shoot Nabulus Youth; Curfew Imposed

TA141808 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] In Nabulus, a youth has been wounded in the head by shots from IDF soldiers when they saw he was preparing a Molotov cocktail. Our correspondent was told that this incident occurred after a Molotov cocktail was thrown at an IDF patrol in the Nabulus casbah. The soldiers carried out search operations in the area and discovered a youth preparing a Molotov cocktail and about to throw it at them. The commander of the force fired at the youth and wounded him. The youth was evacuated to a

hospital. A curfew has been imposed on the Nabulus casbah area. The IDF is investigating the circumstances of the incident.

Molotov Cocktail Thrown in Qalqilyah 15 Aug
TA160826 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0800 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] A Molotov cocktail was thrown at an Israeli car in Qalqilyah yesterday in the vicinity of the railroad. There were no injuries and no damage was caused. The security forces imposed a curfew in the area for several hours.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that on Friday evening three Arab youths were wounded by fire from security forces in the vicinity of Nabulus. In addition to a youth who was wounded in the head while demonstrating in the city, two other youths from the Balatah refugee camp were slightly wounded in their legs. The incident occurred during a disturbance by youths who threw empty bottles and stones at IDF soldiers. The soldiers at first fired into the air, but when the demonstrators failed to disperse the soldiers fired at their legs.

Soldier, Civilian Wounded in Gaza Strip 17 Aug
TA170425 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] Two Israelis, a soldier and a civilian, were wounded by shots fired during an ambush in the Gaza Strip yesterday. The two were traveling in an Israeli car on the road bypassing Gaza. When the car passed near the Jabalyah camp, they were fired on from an ambush and were wounded. The wounded men were taken by helicopters to a Beersheba hospital. Following the incident, the entrances to the Gaza Strip were closed, and all vehicular and pedestrian traffic was stopped in both directions. IDF, border police, and police forces searched the area of the attack. A curfew is currently in effect only in the area of the attack, and workers from Gaza are on their way to work. This has been reported by our correspondent Arye Gus.

Electric Company Seeks Nuclear Reactor Licensing
TA160923 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0700 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] The Electric Company has decided to approve an additional $1 million necessary to complete the work for preparing the licensing of a nuclear reactor in the Negev. Our correspondent reports that the company's board of directors has already approved a special budget for the reactor, which will be built in the vicinity of Shivta. This process takes many years, and it is already clear that even if the work involved in the licensing is completed, the nuclear reactor will not be established before the year 2000.

Permission Granted To Open Nabulus College
TA141411 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 14 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] Dr 'Abd al-Rahim Sirtawi has received permission from the authorities to open the Nabulus college. Registration at the college will begin this month. Dr Sirtawi, founder of the college and chairman of the board of trustees, returned recently from a short visit to Amman, where he met with a number of officials.

PLO Nominates Representative for Cairo Offices
TA141445 Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic
14 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] Cairo — The PLO has nominated Sa'id Kamal, member of the PLO Executive Committee, to represent it in Cairo following the official announcement on the reopening of its offices there within the coming weeks.

rri Demands 'Revolt' Against 'Head' of Regime

C151537 Beirut Voice of National Resistance
Arabic 1430 GMT 15 Aug 87

xt] In a statement to the press today, Attorney Nabih Birri, inister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, said: emand that everyone revolt. I am part of the revolution, the volution of the famished. It is a revolution aimed against tarian traditions, which are devoid of religion. It is a rev- tion aimed against political Maronism, which is dissociated m the Maronites. It is a revolution against the system in banon, which is absolutely devoid of democracy and the free pitalist system. It is a revolution against all the rulers and not ly certain individuals. The target is the head of the regime, who nstitutes a stumbling block with respect to any development or ogress.

inister Nabih Birri disclosed that the proposals to convene a inisterial meeting have failed. He stressed that it is no longer ssible to convene such a meeting.

another development, Minister Birri has denied media reports at East Beirut areas were bombarded from positions in the uthern suburb. He asserted: Amal considers every security plosion to be tendentious, and we are not involved in them.

greement Reached for Cease-Fire East of Sidon

C151312 (Clandestine) Voice of the People
Arabic to Lebanon 1030 GMT 15 Aug 87

Text] The committee entrusted with remedying the situation in e Palestinian camps in the South today announced an greement for a cease-fire east of Sidon. The agreement was clared following a meeting at the Nasirite Popular Organiza- ion headquarters in Sidon at noon. Dr Usamah Sa'd, deputy ecretary general of the Nasirite Popular Organization, chaired he meeting in the presence of committee members and represen- atives from the Palestinian factions. The conferees discussed the ilitary flare-up between Palestinians and Amal members east f Sidon.

In a statement following the meeting, Dr Sa'd stressed the need o stop the ongoing escalation, which only serves the Zionist nemy, causes unrest among nationalists, deepens the rift in the ationalist ranks, and precludes Sidon's role in serving the ational resistance. The following are two decisions made by the onferees:

1. To cease firing east of Sidon as of 1600 today and to notify the Amal Movement to this effect; and

2. To set a date for a meeting with the Amal Movement in the next 2 days to follow up the issue of the camps in the South.

A guarded calm now prevails along the combat lines east of Sidon.

AL-SHIRA': Junblatt Mediating for Terry Waite

JN150538 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
0510 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] In its latest issued published in Beirut, the magazine *Al-Shira'* says that PSP leader Walid Junblatt is mediating with Iranian officials and their allies in Lebanon to secure the release of Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite. *Al-Shira'* adds that this mediation may take Junblatt to Iran to meet with Ayatollah Khomeyni as soon as he is convinced that he will return from Tehran with positive results for the Anglican envoy's fate.

PSP Holds 'Emergency General Congress' 15 Aug

NC151037 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Excerpts] An emergency general congress of the PSP is now meeting in B'aqlin. The closed session is discussing a political report, general items, and the election of party leaders.

PSP leader Walid Junblatt read a comprehensive report in which he emphasized that the Lebanese crisis — in its most serious stages — is one of a regime which can be solved only through radical and comprehensive changes in the political, economic, and social systems. Judging from previous experience, the report stressed that resolving the crisis is impossible as long as the Phalangists are present. The report also touched on the Syrian experience in Lebanon since 1976, asserting that the national powers give legitimacy and guarantees to Syria in Lebanon. Junblatt said that Arab and nationalist rule is the best response to the Phalangist, isolationist government. He reiterated the party's call to establish a comprehensive civil administration as a tool for stability and a starting point for liberation and unification.

The report also urged the dissolution of the Army, reestablishing it from struggling nationalist powers which have earned the honor of belonging to the homeland by defending it. [passage omitted]

The party report called on the Liberation and Unification Front to undertake various urgent tasks and give them priority. It also called for heeding national resistance in the south and urged nationalists to join forces within the framework of unified action according to a comprehensive military, political, and social plan. It stressed that the unity of the Islamic stand depends on commitment to the Arab nationalist path.

The report also touched on regional and international issues such as the international conference, the Palestinian situation in both the Lebanese and Arab arenas, the Gulf war, terrorism, and imperialist policy. [passage omitted]

Junblatt Reportedly Departs for Libya 16 Aug

NC170649 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon
in Arabic 0600 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] According to today's *Al-Safir*, Minister Walid Junblatt went to Libya via Damascus yesterday. [Paris AFP in English at

0634 GMT on 17 August in a similar report adds: "Mr. Junblatt was to hold talks with Libyan leaders on the situation in the Gulf and the July 31 incidents in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, where hundreds of people died, the PSP said."]

Libya Reportedly Halts Aid

NC171155 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] A PSP source has been cited as saying that Minister Walid Junblatt's talks in Libya will center on the situation in the Gulf and the repercussions of the incidents in Mecca. Junblatt left for Libya via Damascus yesterday.

Meanwhile, according to sources in Libya, Tripoli anticipated Junblatt's visit by announcing that aid to the so-called patriotic forces in Lebanon will be stopped for the time being. Some sources had said that Minister Junblatt intended to ask Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to give financial assistance to the PSP.

Ja'ja' on East Beirut, Ties With Al-Jumayyil

NC141508 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Lebanese Forces Commander Dr Samir Ja'ja' has stressed that there are no problems, fighting, or lack of discipline in the eastern areas. On the contrary, he asserted, these areas exhibit united ranks, complete awareness, responsibility, and full coordination. He denied all reports about problems and a coup attempt in the Christian area. He described the relationship with the presidency as one of coordination with some degree of understanding. He also denied the existence of relations between the Lebanese Forces and the Amal Movement and the PSP.

Ja'ja' acknowledged that attempts had been made with the PSP in the past to alleviate the current crises and to broach the issue of the Halat and Beirut airports. He found out, however, that PSP members do not keep their promises. He stressed that Halat Airport will operate eventually.

Regarding relations with former President Franjiyah, Ja'ja' said that these are much better now than before. Responding to a question on the post-Sham'un era, he stated: We must double our efforts in the Lebanese front to fill the vacuum. He emphasized that a new government must be formed that is at least capable of halting the economic deterioration.

Ja'ja' asserted that the Lebanese Forces oppose partition and will not propose a Christian republic. He said: We support an internationalization of the problem; when Syria withdraws from Lebanon, no foreigner will remain here. He expressed his belief that Syria and Israel have reached an understanding, even if indirect, that is aimed against Lebanon.

Arab League Official Meets Al-Huss, Al-Hashim

NC150712 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] ('Abd al-Muhsin Zalzalah), Arab League assistant secretary general for economic affairs, arrived in Lebanon yesterday and met with acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and Minister Joseph al-Hashim. They discussed ways to extend urgent aid to Lebanon.

(Zalzalah) came to Lebanon prior to meetings of the Arab Central Bank Governors Council and the Socioeconomic Council in Tunis on 23 August. These meetings are to be followed by a session of the Arab finance ministers, also in Tunis, on 2 and 3 September. The Lebanese delegation to these meetings will be led by Minister al-Hashim and will include the governor of the Bank of Lebanon.

After meeting with Minister al-Hashim, (Zalzalah) said: We discussed formulating proposals to boost Lebanon's intrinsic economic efforts and alleviate present economic conditions in the country.

Minister al-Hashim added: We requested that the subject of bolstering the Lebanese pound be put on the agenda of the Arab Central Banks meeting. We hope there will be an Arab response to the economic situation in Lebanon.

After meeting with (Zalzalah), acting Prime Minister al-Huss stressed the need for joint Arab action to help Lebanon overcome its difficult economic conditions.

'Emergency Aid' Promised

NC161053 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1015 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Dr ('Abd al-Muhsin Zalzalah), Arab League assistant secretary general for economic affairs, left Beirut for Tunis yesterday after holding consultations with Lebanese officials and the governor of the Bank of Lebanon on ways to help Lebanon overcome its economic and currency crisis.

Government sources have stated that Dr (Zalzalah) has promised to use Arab funds and specialized institutions to provide emergency aid for Lebanon.

Qabalan Criticizes Unification, Liberation Front

NC160920 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan has criticized the Unification and Liberation Front, saying that its members have not yet reached a minimal level of ideological, political, and national maturity.

In an interview with *Monday Morning* magazine, Qabalan expressed the view that this front will suffer the same fate as previous ones. He said that Lebanon is a victim of Arab conflicts

on its territory, the best proof of which is the renewal of the camps war in the Sidon area.

Palestinians Appeal to Shi'ite Clerics on Camps

NC161036 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] A Palestinian source has reported that a delegation comprising representatives from the DFLP and PFLP met yesterday with Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din and Ja'farite Mufti Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan. The Palestinian delegation asked Shaykhs Shams al-Din and Qabalan to intervene so that the siege on the camps in Beirut and the south, which the Amal Movement has been maintaining for nearly 5 months, may be lifted.

Hizballah 'Behind' Death of Ba'th Party Member

NC151311 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] According to information received by the Voice of Lebanon, investigations into the assassination of 'Ali al-'Abdallah, member of the Ba'th party organization in the South, have revealed that a Hizballah group was behind the crime. Preliminary investigations reveal that the crime was connected with the covert Syrian-Iranian conflict in the South.

Syrians, Amal Gunmen Clash Near Shatila Camp

NC141242 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] A limited setback occurred between 1100 and 1120 today in the Shatila camp area, particularly along the (Hayfa Cinema-al-Sharq) line. This was the first such setback in the camp area since the beginning of July.

In another incident, Amal gunmen tried to set up an armed roadblock at the entrance to Shatila from the direction of the Al-Dana gas station at 1230. Syrian forces intervened, and a clash ensued. The fighting ended with the removal of the Amal roadblock.

Resistance Ambushes Lahd Patrols; Casualties Noted

NC141531 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Excerpts] The resistance heroes ambushed a patrol of the agent Lahd militia on the Tall Lubyah road in the Marj 'Uyun area last night. One vehicle was destroyed and seven members of the agent Lahd militia were injured, some gravely. They were taken to occupied Palestine for treatment. [passage omitted]

A group from the Lebanese resistance, Amal, carried out a heroic operation at 0800 today. It detonated 3 explosive devices under a joint Israeli-South Lebanese Army patrol passing through the Haris-Sribbin junction. The hostile patrol consisted of 6 vehicles and 20 men. It was reported that 12 men from this patrol were either killed or wounded and 1 vehicle was destroyed.

Beirut Radio Ceases Transmission for '1 Week'

NC141521 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Dr Ayyub Humayyid, Information Ministry director general, has announced that the official Radio Lebanon [Beirut Domestic Service] has halted its transmission for 1 week due to urgent repair and maintenance work.

Following his meeting with acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and Radio Lebanon Director Fu'ad Hamdan, Dr Humayyid held a news conference in which he said: What we have warned of repeatedly has happened; namely, that Radio Lebanon, the radio of all Lebanon, the only official radio, is halting its transmission due to the lack of the necessary maintenance equipment. [passage omitted]

Dr Humayyid added: We have always attempted to avoid this out of our feeling of responsibility for the consequences. Regrettably, however, circumstances are such that it is impossible to continue operations. He asserted: The radio station needs maintenance and air-conditioning equipment. Halting the station's transmission has become inevitable because the consequences of continuing are unpredictable.

Dr Humayyid noted that the station needs 6 days to change the cable and resume operation. He added: This is not the only problem; there are others regarding equipment and air-conditioning in all of the station offices. He concluded by saying: While announcing this regrettable news to the public, we hope to be able to overcome this problem and resume transmission of the radio of all Lebanon within 1 week so that the station can perform its role of serving Lebanon and the people.

Foreign Ministry Note Protests Iranian 'Aggression'

LD151822 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] The charge d'affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kabul was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1604 today and a strongly worded protest note was handed to him at the direction of the Second Political Department.

The note states the following:

While the people of the DRA are genuinely utilizing the humane opportunities of the national reconciliation policy for the construction of a prosperous, progressive, and blossoming society, it is clear that our neighbor not only has not made any positive or necessary reply to this humane and peace-seeking policy but through hostile and aggressive actions, blatant violation of international principles and norms, and disregard for the maintenance of peace andsecurity on common borders, the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran have given a broad unfriendly and damaging dimension to strained relations between the two neighboring countries.

Reports from the DRA border authorities note that after extensive preparation and the positioning of unspecified weapons and operational personnel in the vicinity of the (Tappeh-ye Safid), (Qala-e Akbar), (Koh Jah), and (Khergah) posts located in the vicinity of the Eslam Qal'eh precinct, the Iranian forces stationed along the common border have been firing at the traffic control post of Eslam Qal'eh, headquarters of the border unit, and the Afghan (Jalanga) post since 14 August using mortar, 23-mm artillery, antiaircraft machinegun, and surface-to-surface missiles.

The note also cites other provocative actions by the Iranians which have resulted in one officer and a soldier from the Afghan border unit being seriously injured.

The aggressive actions of the Iranian border forces have caused heavy material losses for the Afghan side and damage to installations, the note reports.

The DRA strongly denounces these aggressive actions by the forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the note asserts, which have no other result than to strain neighborly relations between the two countries.

In expressing its strong protest, the note requests the Iranian authorities to pay attention to the consequences of such aggressive actions and to emphatically instruct their border officials to stop the aggression and hostile operations against the DRA border posts as soon as possible and to avoid aggression against the sanctity of Afghanistan's sovereignty.

In the event such aggression should continue, the DRA forces guarding the borders will take action to stop it. Under these circumstances, the responsibility for foiling the aggression will rest with the respective authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Leadership Greets India on Independence Day

LD160703 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0439 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Kabul, August 15, *Bakhtar* — "The support extended by the government and the people of India to the peaceful policy of national reconciliation in the DRA has opened up a new page in the traditional and historic relations between the two countries" says a message of felicitation of the DRA leadership addressed to Ramaswamy Venkataraman, president, and Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister, of the Republic of India on the 40th anniversary of independence of India.

The message conveyed the gratitude and felicitions of the PDPA CC, Revolutionary Council, and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to the government and peoples of India.

The message says that the Republic of India by pursuing a policy based on wisdom and reality has turned to a decisive factor for ensuring peace and security in the region and the world.

Confidence has been expressed that the Republic of India will achieve higher steps of social progress under the leadership of the Indian National Congress (I) Party.

The message is signed by Najib, general secretary of the PDPA CC, Haji Mohammad Samkani, acting president of the Revolutionary Council, Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA.

Mujahidin Kill 14 Soviet-Kabul Soldiers in Parvan

BK160623 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the mujahidin have inflicted heavy losses on the Soviet-Kabul forces in their operations in Kabul Province. The mujahidin have also attacked residential areas in which the Kabul administration's officers and Soviet advisers are located and damaged many buildings.

In another operation, the mujahidin killed 14 Soviet-Kabul soldiers in Parvan Province and damaged a helicopter and two tanks.

Soviet Forces Reportedly Kill 16 Kabul Soldiers

BK151008 Karachi Overseas Service in English
0800 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Sixteen Kabul-regime soldiers have been reported killed in a shootout with Soviet troops who accused them of helping the Afghan mujahidin. Mujahidin sources say the shootout was triggered by a mujahidin attack on a military base in northwest Afghanistan last month. Soviet troops had accused the soldiers of pinpointing the target for the mujahidin attack.

Japan's Kuranari Holds Talks With Ershad
BK140526 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
0110 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Formal talks between Bangladesh and Japan are being held in Dhaka today. The Bangladesh team is being led by Foreign Minister Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, while the Japanese delegation by the visiting foreign minister, Tadashi Kuranari. Our diplomatic representative understands the talks will cover the entire gamut of bilateral relations. It will also cover world issues and other matters of bilateral concern.

Meanwhile, Mr Tadashi Kuranari called on President Ershad at Banga Bhavan [president's house] yesterday evening. During the meeting, the Japanese foreign minister expressed his great admiration for the dynamic and inspiring leadership of President Ershad and said this was the prime reason for the steady progress that Bangladesh has been registering over the past 6 years. In this context, he specially noted the accelerated pace of development and progress made by Bangladesh since the transition to democracy in the country. Mr Tadashi expressed his deep sympathy for the flood-affected people and lauded the initiative of the Bangladesh Government and the meaningful steps which are being taken not only to bring succor and relief to the affected people, but also in making programs for the post-flood period. The Japanese foreign minister commended the initiative of President Ershad in personally supervising the relief operation in the flood affected areas. This, he said, has received the admiration of the Japanese Government and the people.

He referred to President Ershad's letter to the Japanese prime minister, Mr Nakasone, on the eve of the recently concluded Venice meeting of the seven most industrialized countries and said the letter had received due attention of his government and the points made therein were being examined.

The Japanese foreign minister also briefly informed President Ershad about his fruitful discussions with the leaders of Sri Lanka and India, the two South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation — SAARC — partners of Bangladesh.

President Ershad told the Japanese foreign minister that floods are a common phenomenon in Bangladesh. But this time it has been worse than in the past, resulting in loss of human lives and livestock and substantial crop damage. Foreign Secretary Nuzrul Islam and Japanese ambassador to Bangladesh, Mr Yoshitomo Tanaka, were present.

'Main Points' of Speech
OW141041 Tokyo KYODO in English 1024 GMT 14 Aug 87

["Main Points of Kuranari's Speech" — KYODO headline]

[Text] Dhaka, Aug. 14 KYODO — Following are key elements of Japanese Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari's policy speech as translated by the Japanese Foreign Ministry:

(Title) "Golden Chance" — A Step Towards New Cooperative Relations

-- Japan and South Asia

Given such recent developments as the growth in the overall national capability of both Japan and the South Asian countries, their increased importance in the international community and their enhanced potential, I must admit that even our present relationship needs to be yet closer and broader.

In this belief, guided by the following three key principles inspiring Japanese policy...I will work for the closer relationship between Japan and South Asia.

(1) Promotion of political dialogue to seek peace for asia:

Ever since the end of the Second World War, the first pillar of Japan's foreign policy has always been "Japan's contribution as a country committed to peace."

It is my conviction that one of the major avenues for Japan to contribute to peace and prosperity in Asia is to steadfastly adhere to the commitment to peace and utilize its capabilities only for nonmilitary purposes.

I also believe it is important to make active contributions, cooperating with other peace-loving nations in Asia, to the relaxation of tensions and the peaceful settlement of conflicts, by promoting dialogue.

Japan wishes to further strengthen its efforts for promoting political dialogue with the countries in South Asia.

(2) Promotion of exchange for mutual understanding between peoples:

The second pillar in Japan's policy is the promotion of exchange for deeper mutual understanding between peoples.

As a beginning, I plan to hold a Japan-SAARC symposium in this fiscal year, in which people of knowledge and experience from Japan and South Asia will meet, with Japan inviting participants from the South Asian countries.

I also plan to hold a Japan-SAARC youth discussion meeting this autumn to promote exchange between the youth of Japan and South Asia, as part of the South Asia youth invitation program.

We will also send exchange promotion caravans.

(3) Strengthening mutually beneficial cooperative relations:

The third pillar is to strengthen mutually beneficial cooperative relations for development. My visit to South Asia has taught me how high the expectations of the South Asian countries are towards Japan as a partner in their development efforts.

Let me assure you here of the Japanese Government's determination to do its utmost to respond seriously to those expectations.

In May, intending to expand Japan's contribution to the international community, Japan decided on such measures as advancing

by two years the target year of the current seven-year plan for the doubling of Japan's official development assistance, and also recycling to the developing countries over the next three years more than 20 billion dollars in totally untied official and private funds, over and above the existing programs, particularly to countries with heavy external debt burdens.

Japan is planning to invite administrators responsible for economic cooperation in South Asia to a seminar on the modalities and procedures of Japan's economic and technical cooperation, aiming at a better understanding of our cooperative activities.

-- On regional cooperation as we approach the 21st century:

(Directions for regional cooperation)

First, efforts for regional cooperation would be most constructive when they are made in harmony with countries outside the region and with other regions and in such a way as to share peace and prosperity with them.

It is necessary that dual attention always be paid lest regional cooperation should lead to a closed regional bloc.

Second, the character of the region should be respected in promoting regional cooperation.

Third, regional cooperation is supposed to address the problems of the region objectively and provide realistic solutions to them.

Fourth, as I am sure you will all agree, the forward momentum and the prime driving force of regional cooperation should be achieved by utilizing initiatives from within the region itself and attaining consensus there.

I believe that the regional cooperation within the framework of the SAARC is an unprecedented experiment that will demonstrate what mankind can achieve in the 21st century.

-- Conclusion

I remember the words of President Ershad's own poem which he read before many poets of Asia at the Asian poetry festival in January of this year.

We have a "golden chance" within our grasp. With all of you here this evening, those words of President Ershad deeply in mind, I would like to renew my own pledge to work for peace and friendship.

Extends Emergency Flood Relief

OW141315 Tokyo KYODO in English 1230 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Dhaka, Aug. 14 KYODO — Japan Friday extended to Bangladesh a total of 100,000 tons of rice and wheat valued at 2.5 billion yen in emergency grant aid to help the country recover from floods that have claimed the lives of more than 130 people in northern Bangladesh.

Japan also pledged to subscribe up to 1 million dollars to the U.N. world food program to offset flood damage to crops in Bangladesh.

The emergency assistance was conveyed by Japan's Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari during talks at the ministry with his Bangladeshi counterpart Humayun Rashid Chowdhury.

Chowdhury expressed his gratitude and said Japan is the first country to offer such aid, Japanese sources said.

The Bangladeshi minister asked for more Japanese commodity credits and more Japanese business ventures in Bangladesh, the sources said. He also urged Japan to lower tariffs on jute and related products which are Bangladesh's main export items.

Chowdhury further asked the Tokyo Government to consider Bangladesh in the implementation of Japan's pledge to recycle 20 billion dollars of trade surplus funds to developing countries.

Kuranari said Japan would do its utmost to meet the request, the sources said.

The Japanese foreign minister, now on a South Asian tour, arrived here Thursday.

Earlier Friday, he met with President Hussain Mohammad Ershad and delivered a speech at the Bangladesh Institute of International Strategic Studies later in the day outlining Japan's foreign policy on the region.

He will visit Bangkok on Saturday before returning to Tokyo Sunday, winding up the tour which also took him to India and Sri Lanka.

Troops Increased on Pakistan, Bangladesh Borders
BK141251 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] The Lok Sabha was told today that additional companies of Border Security Force [BSF] have been deployed on the Indo-Pakistan and Indo-Bangladesh borders to increase vigilance. The minister of state for home, Mr P. Chidambaram, said more observation posts have been set up and more vehicles are deployed to check the movement of infiltrators. He said nearly 2,600 infiltrators were arrested by the BSF on Assam, Gujarat, Punjab, and Jammu and Kashmir border last year.

Police Reportedly Fire on Maharashtra Workers
BK140514 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] In Maharashtra, unruly demonstrators stoned police in (Mangalore Dastagir) in Amravati District yesterday evening. They were demanding the opening of more work centers in the drought affected areas. Police made a lathi [baton] charge and later opened fire to disperse them. Thirty-six people were injured. Fifteen police constables were injured in the stone throwing.

Terrorists Gun Down 5 in Punjab 14 Aug
BK150405 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0317 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] In Punjab, five persons, including four members of a family, were gunned down by terrorists in village Lakhanwal in Gurdaspur District last night. According to an official spokesman, about six terrorists came to the village and asked a farmer, Puran Singh, at pistol point to take them to the house of the sarpanch [village head] where they gunned down the sarpanch, his wife, and two sons. Later, while escaping, they also shot dead Puran Singh.

FRG Submarine Firm Asserts Direct Negotiations
BK131602 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] The West German submarine firm HDW has categorically stated that negotiations for sale of their submarines to India were held without engaging any Indian agents. The negotiations were held directly between the Government of India, the HDW firm, and the West German Government. This information was given in the Rajya Sabha today by the minister of state for defense, Mr Shiv Raj Patil.

In a written reply, the minister said the allegations regarding the involvement of the agents in the submarine deal did not mention the names of the agents or the amount received by them.

Investigations into the matter have been entrusted to the Enforcement Directorate, the Central Board of Direct Taxes, and the Economic Intelligence Bureau.

Mr Patil said the matter was also taken up with the West German Government, as well as the submarine firm.

The firm had replied that the information is incorrect and possibly the result of a misunderstanding.

About the alleged sale of blueprints of the submarines to South Africa, the minister said the matter has been taken up with the West German authorities.

Nation's Highest Honor Conferred on Pashtun Leader
BK140657 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0435 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Bharat Ratna, the nation's highest honor, was conferred on the "Frontier Gandhi," Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan [of Pakistan], at a special investiture ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan [president's house] this morning.

The president, Mr R. Venkataraman, presented the award to Mr Wali Khan, son of the Pashtun leader, who received this on behalf of his ailing father.

The award has been given in recognition of the great sacrifices made by "Frontier Gandhi" during India's freedom struggle.

The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, several union ministers, the three service chiefs, and prominent citizens were present on the occasion.

Naval Units Sail For 'International Waters'

LD141702 Tehran IRNA in English 1658 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 14, IRNA — Iranian naval units set sail for the Gulf of Oman this afternoon to carry out mine sweeping operations in international waters outside the Strait of Hormuz.

Different types of vessels accompanied by frogmen and mine hunting helicopters are participating in this mission outside the strait in order to sweep the mines from the United Arab Emirates waters providing the U.A.E. gives its consent to do so.

According to marine sources seven mines have so far been discovered and detonated in the waters of Al-Fujayrah port of the United Arab Emirates.

Minesweeping Unit To Continue Operations

LD151044 Tehran IRNA in English 1039 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Gulf of Oman, Aug. 15, IRNA — An operational commander of Iran's naval forces told IRNA Saturday that Iranian mine sweeping fleet has so far noticed no suspicious case in the Strait of Hormuz or the Gulf of Oman. He stressed that the mine sweeping unit which started its operations Friday, would continue its mission in free international waters to maintain security of these waterways, vital to navigation of ships and oil tankers. The mine sweeping fleet of the naval forces is being escorted by two war ships while mine sweeping helicopters are flying some distance ahead.

A report from the area said that mine sweeping operations were carried out under bad weather conditions and in stormy seas with waves up to seven meters high. An operational commander said that mine sweeping operations under these weather conditions was probably unprecedented in the world.

Meanwhile, U.S., British, and French war ships are silently watching the operations, without sending radio messages.

Navy Commander on Operations

LD161155 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] In an interview with our correspondent today, Commodore Malekzadegan, commander of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran,spoke of the successful achievements, organization, capability, and performance of the Navy in clearing mines from the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman zone. We invite you now to listen to this interview:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Commodore Malekzadegan, in view of the recent events in the Persian Gulf region, could you tell us about the achievements of the Iranian Navy in clearing mines from the area, which services have cooperated with you in this matter, and what has been the response of the Persian Gulf littoral states in this connection?

[Malekzadegan] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In view of the current situation in the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman and their mine infestation, the Iranian Navy has been given the duty of clearing the entire zone. On this basis, we have organized our forces in three sectors: first, from latitude 25 degrees in the Gulf of Oman northward; second, the Strait of Hormuz and the middle part [as heard]; and third, the northern Persian Gulf. Our forces are composed of approximately five combat groups. Our first units are minesweeping helicopter squadrons, which include reconnaissance helicopters equipped with mechanical minesweeping systems, as well as magnetic and sonic systems. Given their speed, they can clear large areas of mines. [end recording]

[Announcer] In referring to the unique position enjoyed by the Iranian minesweeping squadron in the region and the world, the commander of the Iranian Navy has stated that reconnaissance and hunter helicopters, naval vessels and supply ships, and divers and combat forces are taking part in our minesweeping activities. He added that the minesweeping operations began Saturday [15 August] in the Gulf of Oman.

Emphasizing the capabilities of the Iranian Navy in clearing mines from the waters of the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman, he said: Our forces are powerful enough to help the states of the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman. Consequently, there is no need at all for other countries to engage in minesweeping operations in the region.

French Ship 'Reconnoitered'

LD161636 Tehran IRNA in English 1624 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Gulf of Oman, Aug. 16, IRNA — Iranian naval units escorted by two warships reconnoitered a French destroyer here today while carrying out mine sweeping operations. Boldness of the Iranian Navy personnel astounded the French personnel as Iran's caravan approached '*George Le Goz*' with a hull number of 640.

An operational commander told IRNA correspondent aboard a Navy vessel that the mine sweeping units are well-equipped and are capable of strongly countering any possible enemy moves. The caravan which is continuing its operations in Gulf of Oman has not faced any suspicious case to-date.

Islamic Revolution Spokesman on Saudi Gas Explosion

LD171043 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] In an exclusive interview with our correspondent in Beirut, the spokesman for the Islamic Revolution in Jazirat al-'Arab [Saudi Arabia] has disclosed new facts about the explosions which took place at a liquefied gas plant in Saudi Arabia 2 day ago. The blasts caused a fire which resulted in 22 deaths and 11 injuries.

He said: According to reports received here, the cause of the explosions was not an electrical fault. One person or a group was behind the blasts. The spokesman pointed out that the explosions were the result of the adventurous and inconsistent policy pursued by the Saudi regime, which is involved in murdering its

people and repressing calls for freedom, as well as the rights of the Saudi Muslim nation.

In conclusion, the spokesman for the Islamic Revolution in Jazirat al-'Arab noted the servitude of the Saudi regime toward the United States and the West in massacring hajj pilgrims, as well as its support for the Ba'thist regime ruling in Iraq which is warring against the Islamic Republic of Iran. He asserted: The Saudi regime is responsible for all the regional crises.

Majlis Speaker Says Mining Gulf Like 'Sowing Seeds'

LD161139 Tehran IRNA in English 1126 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 16, IRNA — Speaker of Iran's Majlis (parliament) Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani warned here Sunday "If an incident happens in the Persian Gulf which halts oil exports from the region, regional oil will not be exported even through pipelines."

Hashemi-Rafsanjani who is also Imam Khomeyni's representative to the Supreme Defence Council told a gathering of nationwide educational officials that the West had surpassed all boundaries for creation of tension in the region.

The Majlis speaker stressed that Iran could make the Persian Gulf insecure for ever with its equipments and home-made boats. "Our reasoning in the Persian Gulf is clear. If the world cares for security of the Persian Gulf, it should put an end to Iraqi regime's mischievous acts," Hashemi-Rafsanjani remarked.

Iran had announced time and again that its operations in the Persian Gulf are retaliatory, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said, adding that if those responsible for creating insecurity were prevented from doing so, all problems would now have been solved.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed that if Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Turkey instructed Iraqi regime to halt its acts of mischief otherwise they would discontinue their support, then security would be established in the Persian Gulf.

He termed as "baseless" the reasoning that since Iraq had no access to the Persian Gulf it should deprive Iran of using this waterway. "Iraq is using Kuwaiti islands in the Persian Gulf while Kuwaiti and Saudi oil is being exported through neutral zone on its behalf. We have said that if Iraq stops its attacks in the Persian Gulf, we will ignore these issues," the Majlis speaker said.

Stressing that Iran could easily disturb security in the Persian Gulf, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that mining the Persian Gulf was like sowing seeds. "We have a mine producing factory which could produce mines like seeds," the Majlis speaker said.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani reiterated that on the pretext of protecting the security in the Persian Gulf the imperialist powers were manipulating world opinion and endeavouring to strengthen their military build-up in the region.

Referring to mine sweeping in southern littoral states, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that the situation in the coasts of the United Arab Emirates, especially Al-Fujayrah, was an indication to vicious intentions of imperialism.

Elsewhere in his speech, Hashemi-Rafsanjani commented on the July 31 massacre of hajj pilgrims in Mecca and described it as the "worst crime in history". He castigated Western mass media for distorting the news on this catastrophic incident. Hashemi-Rafsanjani referred to the possibility of reaction from world Muslims against Mecca massacre and said it would be due to their responsibility towards Islam. However, he added, there was a power behind the Islamic Republic and the enemies knew it well.

On recent explosion at a Saudi gas terminal Hashemi-Rafsanjani said it was not clear how the incident took place "but we consider it as an invisible aid...under this circumstances and in the aftermath of Mecca catastrophe."

On the use of disreputing labels by imperialism as a means to achieve objectives, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that wherever people of the Third World countries are threatened no one is responsible, but that when the illegal interests of imperialism are threatened, then the imperialists label their opponents as terrorists.

Imperialism had done so in the case of war and peace, the Majlis speaker said adding that Islam had respected the term peace and had invited people to it. But, he stressed, imperialism imposed a war on Iran and now that the Islamic Republic was defending herself imperialism referred to it as war-mongering.

Foreign Minister Velayati Leaves for Oman 15 Aug

NC150519 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Our Foreign Minister Mr Velayati left for Oman this morning at the head of a political delegation.

The Central News Unit reports that this visit is taking place at the official invitation of the Omani foreign minister and is in response to a visit to Tehran by Mr Yusuf ibn al-'Alawi. The report adds that during this visit the officials will discuss bilateral relations, regional issues, and the Persian Gulf situation.

Comments on Talks

LD162139 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Our country's foreign minister, Mr Velayati, who had gone to Oman at the head of a delegation, returned to Tehran at 2000 on Sunday. Our correspondent interviewed Mr Velayati on the outcome of this delegation's trip.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Mr Velayati, you visited Oman for 30 hours. Could you please comment on the objective of this visit and its outcome?

[Velayati] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. This trip took place at the invitation of Mr Yusuf ibn al-'Alawi

ibn 'Abdallah, the foreign minister of Oman, and was in fact a formal visit in return for his excellency's trip to Tehran several months ago. During a meeting with that country's king, a message from Mr Khamene'i, the honorable president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, was submitted to his excellency.

During the talks with Mr al-'Alawi, we discussed ways to expand our bilateral relations, particularly in the trade, oil, and economic fields. We reached a favorable agreement in some areas. It was decided that a high-ranking oil delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran should visit Oman in the near future. The two sides stressed the need for increasing contacts between the two countries.

We had lengthy talks on the current situation in the Persian Gulf region. In view of the acts of the superpowers to create tension in the region, particularly the United States of America, and the involvement of some regional countries in escalating this tension, we informed the Omani officials of our views. The Omani officials fully understand our position; namely, that it is solely up to the countries of this region to maintain security here. They believe that it does not serve regional interests at all if foreign forces intervene. The task of maintaining the security of the Persian Gulf, the Strait of Hormuz, and the Gulf of Oman should be the sole responsibility of the countries in the region.

Omani authorities welcomed the step of the Islamic Republic to clear mines from the Strait of Hormuz and Gulf of Oman and regarded this as a very positive move. Some agreements were reached on the two countries' cooperation in the region and in international forums in the future,

[Correspondent] Thank you.

[Velayati] You are welcome. [end recording]

Khomeyni Address Marking Muslim Succession
LD141321 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Speech by Ayatollah Khomeyni to mark the anniversary of the declaration of 'Ali as the prophet's successor at a meeting with Construction Jihad officials, students, and military officials at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran on 14 August — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Before beginning my speech, I deem it necessary to thank the Construction Jihad. What I can do is to pray and I do pray. I pray for you who live your lives for Islam and Muslims. You must not expect rewards from anyone but God. Only Almighty God can bestow the rewards due to you. On this auspicious day I ask Almighty God to grant salvation to all those who serve this Islamic Republic and all those who devote their life and wealth to support this just cause. I offer my congratulations on the occasion of this blessed feast to all the world's Muslims, the oppressed, especially to dear Iran.

I really do not know where to begin to speak about his holiness the amir [Imam 'Ali, the first Shi'a imam]. It is a complicated problem. It is not a problem which human beings can understand. He used to moan so much, he used to put his head into a well to moan, [words indistinct] used to moan. What are these prayers that have been handed down from him and are filled with so many moans? Did his holiness the amir, peace be on him, cry so much because he was interested in this world and had come from the realm of oneness to the world of plurality? Was his interest in plurality the cause of so much crying? Were his night cries and moanings, his moaning in these wells, and his pleas to Almighty God all related to [words indistinct]? Were these related to this: O God, you have taken us from your presence to the realm of plurality? The same words were said by the great prophet, God's peace be on him and his clan. Was there some sort of unhappiness, or was the return to plurality the cause of unhappiness? Attention to the world of nature — although in their view it is a reflection of God — has nevertheless distracted them from the reflection of the core and from the state of godliness. For this reason they were crying.

This is a problem which we cannot understand. We imagine that those things which the philosophers say, which the learned people of science say, which the learned people say, are examples of these problems. [as heard] They are examples of the problems which have been experienced by the great guardian. These are all scientific problems, scientific knowledge, scientific philosophy, and technical science -- all scientific problems. They are different from what they should be. To find it is one problem; to be drowned in those problems is another set of higher problems. [as heard] Moreover, how much [words indistinct] was achieved for them is a higher level. For them it was difficult to return from that level. It was painful. No pain was greater than that of returning from that elevated state, from the divine presence, a place where no one is, where even they themselves may not be. To return to this world is very difficult for them. This is a problem common to all God's prophets, from his holiness Adam to the prophet of God.

This is a point which we cannot understand, except for things which are related to this world, which are all natural. Even gnosticism is natural; philosophy is natural. All these are natural affairs. These are the limits to which the philosophers and gnostics could go. This is beyond what they could understand. What can we say about him? Of course, when they returned to plurality, it placed a great burden on them and on the Muslims. They all faced such problems. Spiritual problems once overcame all other things. Their return from the world of divinity to the world of low status was difficult for them. It used to be painful. However, when they returned -- because they were the blessing of God -- they wanted all the people to be happy. When they see the people as they are, going to the inferno in droves andcreating a hell in droves, the prophets suffer. They even suffer when they see that the heathens go to hell. They are blessings.

When he realizes that he wants to establish a just rule and that in order to do this he suffers so much and gets slapped in the face, then it is not possible (?to overlook) these things. He does not want to do this just for himself; he wants people to achieve justice. However, the people will not understand this. This is something that has existed from the beginning of the world and will remain until the end. Anyone who rebelled in the cause of justice got a slap in the face. Abraham Khalilollah [friend of God], who revolted for the sake of justice, got a slap in the face and was

thrown into the fire. From the beginning of the world to this day, they have paid the penalties for all the things done for the sake of justice and for just rule. This is how it should have been. Each of them paid the penalty in one way or another.

We assumed that that which is being said, which has been said — contrary to the norm, some of the prophets did not revolt to bring about justice, but they performed miracles and preached — we assume that they did not make war so much; we may assume that this may be the case. However, you should note: The most sacred things that existed for the godless were the idols. If a person were to fearlessly insult the Almighty, God forbid, has he not then begun to wage war against the Muslims? If he were to express doubts in God and in God's prophet, then has he not begun to wage war against Muslims? He has revolted against the Muslims on his own. If Abraham Khalilollah had done nothing except drag his walking stick and broken all the idols — the most sacred things for idolaters — was this not a revolt against them? Is this not an armed revolt? Is this not higher than an armed revolt? If armies were to conduct an armed revolt against you — revolt for you, against you — then comparing this one and the other who has not waged an armed revolt but has come openly and cursed your sacred beings, which of the two would you consider to be worse? There is no doubt that a Muslim would think the latter was worse. They [not further identified] too were like this.

So, it is wrong to say that holy Christ, may God's peace be upon him, merely performed miracles and gave advice, or that holy Moses simply performed minor things, or even those among them who revolted. However, this is the issue, an issue that has existed throughout those times and throughout the world, from the beginning of the world until now, and shall remain so to the end: Anyone who revolted to establish justice, to establish a just rule, has received a slap in the face.

I say that we have no cause for complaint in that we revolted in order to revive justice, to establish a just rule and Islamic rule for which we received slaps in the face. We should receive more slaps in the face. This happened in one way in those times; now it happens in another manner. But what is certain is that we have to pay the penalty. Abraham Khalilollah had to pay the penalty, Musa Karimollah paid the penalty, and God's prophet also paid the penalty, and the commander of the faithful ['Ali] went through such hardships. Others also suffered hardships because they all intended to establish a just rule. If holy Abraham were to come and merely pray, then they would not have thrown him into the fire. If the prophet, may God's peace be upon him, had merely prayed when he was in Mecca, there would not have been anything more than this. [as heard] However, he was struggling against all those things that were sacred to and honored by the heathens. This is why they opposed him.

Therefore, if anyone just sits and prays, he will be left alone. If Muslims just sit and stretch a hand toward God to ask the Almighty to grant them blessings, to take pity, and such things, no one will bother them. However, this is contrary to the traditions of the prophets. The prophets have all received slaps in the face, and we also are receiving slaps in the face. This slap is striking Islam and not us. It is a slap that from the beginning of the world until now has struck the sanctity of the prophets. It is not a question of personality. It does not have to do with the person concerned. It is a question of ideology. They delivered a slap in the face of their ideology.

Now the world has been joined. There is no one specific place, and we are probably being heard in many places. Now the world has become a district, a mosque, something like this. In this respect, you revolt and they see that you have revolted for the termination of their sanctities. What are their sanctities? They want to gain influence; you do not allow this. Therefore, you have revolted against their sanctities. They want to amass wealth, but you have revolted against them by saying that they should not do this. Whatever they consider as sacred in the world, you and your ideology have demanded that you should stand against them. So we must receive slaps in the face. There is no other way. We all must receive slaps in the face. This is the slap that Islam is receiving and, thanks be to God, the light of this has manifested itself in all parts of the world. However much the U.S. mass media and others want to shout and clamor, it is useless. The evil that they did in Mecca, that massacre, is reverberating throughout the world, but not on Israeli radio. It cannot be otherwise. Usurper governments should all oppose us. We will consider it wrong if they do not do so.

In the past they used to say: If you want to disgrace someone you should praise him. However, when they say bad things about us this attracts more attention because even if you touch the sea it will become polluted. Therefore, if you say good things about us, all the people will oppose it. However, God Almighty wants the mass media to oppose us so that people may become equipped. [as heard] May God Almighty enable all of us to enter the world of Islamic knowledge so that I might learn what the prophets of God had to say and what they communicated to God, what their stories were. May God familiarize me with these issues. May the Almighty strengthen Islam, for He has promised this. May He fulfill this promise.

Khamene'i Delivers Second Sermon on Mecca Incident

LD142013 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1258 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Second Friday prayer sermon delivered by Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i at the Tehran University campus on 14 August — recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Praise be to the Almighty. [passage omitted] Today is the end of a week in which some important events have occurred in our Islamic world. With regard to the sacred system of the Islamic Republic, some of these events involve the evolutionary processes we are experiencing in our revolution. We should appreciate these processes, take advantage of them, and benefit from them as constructive for the future. I shall be talking about these events in general and I shall describe some of our most important problems at present. [passage omitted]

I shall discuss the terrible tragedy that occurred in Mecca exactly 15 days ago. As I have said, this is one of those unending events in the world of Islam. It is an event which resembles, in different ways, the episode of the tragedy of Hoseyn ibn 'Ali, may God's

peace be upon him, at Karbala'. [passage omitted on martyrdom of Imam Hoseyn and on criticism of the way the Saudis dealt with the marchers and injured] All the elements that go into the making of a tragedy — great numbers of people and a great crime — were present in Mecca. They carried all these out.

They took some people that had minor injuries to prisons and detention centers. One does not take an injured person to a detention center; one takes an injured person to a hospital. One does not tie the hands and feet of an injured person with chains; nor does one deprive an injured person from drinking water, making him thirsty. They took some people to prisons, to detention centers — in reality to torture chambers — and kept them there for 1, 2, 3, 4 days or more. Some of them could have survived with surgery. However, they became martyrs and died in these very detention centers. One of the injured was martyred because he was sent to the hospital too late. They did not stop at this. They did not allow the pure corpses of the martyrs to be returned speedily to their families. [passage omitted]

Even now, 15 days after the event, not all the martyrs have been returned; not all the corpses are here. I checked yesterday and some 100 martyrs of the stated number have still not been returned. These are only the Iranian corpses. As to the corpses of others who were martyred in this event, it is not clear what they have done with them, or to whom they have been delivered, or to whom they will deliver them, or even whether they will be delivered.

We are in mourning not only for the Iranian martyrs, but also for all the martyrs wherever they came from originally. The Islamic Republic of Iran is the chief mourner for them all.

Now you see what the incident was about and what a tragedy it was — a group of men, women, old, and young. Whatever the pretext, we claim you that stage-managed this crime and carried it out in order to crush the Islamic movement. They say, no, they had no plans for this, and claim that 1 or 2 or 10 persons attacked them. Very well, assuming the impossible, we accept what you say. However when 10 persons attacked, should you have responded by releasing your savage dogs, with such anger, grudge, and spite, on so many people who were going to the shrine and were not bothering anyone? Even you had to admit that not everyone had attacked. Should they have crushed them like this with bullets, gas, poison gases, and all sorts of torture so that the number of martyrs reached 500-600?

Even now the exact number of all the Iranian and non-Iranian martyrs is not clear. Many times this number were injured during the event -- those who were beaten up, those who shed blood. Well, this was the true element of this event. It was a true tragedy. It took place in the house of God. [passage omitted]

God turns His house into a place of security and safety where people gather, assemble, pray, and entrust their prayers to Him. They turned this center of security and safety into a slaughterhouse during this holy month. This was truly a great crime on their part. It was a great act of innocence and purity by these defenseless, unprotected pilgrims.

However, another tragic aspect of this event, which is no better than the aspect just recounted, was the base and impudent use of propaganda. The Zionist propaganda machinery, these world-wide news agencies -- most of whom have direct or indirect links with Zionist institutions -- were used to distort the events. They used this machinery shamelessly. What is your final word? Were not 500-600 persons killed? You took money from a large number of pilgrims in order to act as hosts to them. In the world of Islam your life, your honor, and your pride spring from the fact that you should serve the pilgrims. For some reason you killed 500 of these people. Is this not true? You have beaten up and injured several thousand of them, have you not? What is your answer? [passage omitted]

This is a wound on the body of the Islamic ummah and the Islamic community; it must be healed. This wound has to heal. The hands of treason, along with the designs of world arrogance and their mercenaries, have made this wound; it must be cured. It is not as if it will stay and then be forgotten. All the publicity and cultural institutions in the world of Islam and those who are not affiliated with the governments should help show the true face of this event so that the nations may understand what is happening in the world of Islam.

They should understand the response of a people who have transformed the phrases "There is no God but God," and "God is great," from their arid, rhetorical state and incorporated it into their life, in confrontation with world arrogance. They should know the reasons for the opposition directed against the Islamic Republic. The only sin of the Islamic Republic and our Muslim nation, including the dear and innocent pilgrims, is just this: They have brought true meaning to the phrase, "There is no God but God," in the sense of eliminating the idols, breaking the enemies of God, and throwing away worldly possessions which possess human beings. [passage omitted]

I must point out something here: Our dear brothers and our proud youth who have been hurt, who are in pain, and bereaved should note that the response to such acts should not be to confront embassies. The embassies issue is a different issue. First, those who perpetrated that act in Mecca are not those residing in the embassy there. Second, the issue of an ambassador and an envoy of a state who lives under the protection of Islam and who has the political immunity of Islam, is, in Islam, an accepted issue. It is wrong for some people to confront officers and envoys of states that take such positions, even if it is due to the fervor and vigor felt by the people on the first day — and it was justified vigor — which lead to certain events. However, such acts must not continue. [passage omitted]

We in turn have ambassadors in some states in compliance with bilateral and international accords that must be followed. Furthermore, from the Islamic point of view, ambassadors residing under our protection and under the protection of an Islamic order must be respected and so should their families.

Mecca is a different matter. We will not forget this incident. It was a very great happening. It was a massacre of the innocent and the guests, and involved attacks and aggression against our nation. This was an insult to the Islamic Republic. A national of a country caught up in an incident will demand that his govern-

ment take care of a citizen of that country who has a problem. Here, several hundred of our Muslims and members of our esteemed and cohesive ummah were subjected to (?attacks) and repression; thousands were assaulted. This is the greatest insultto the Islamic Republic order. We will not forget it and will deal with each of these issues at an opportune time. [chants]

I want to discuss the Persian Gulf issue and the lunatic and foolish bearing of arms by the U.S. regime. [passage omitted on presence of navies to protect Iraq] We have had nothing to do with the United States. It is the United States which is fomenting a crisis. We are not confronting the United States in this matter. We are confronting Iraq, which has hit our ships, and only when it hits them. We are also confronting those who sell Iraqi oil and act on its behalf. In effect, they are its allies and accomplices in its crimes. So far these are Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and some similar countries. [passage omitted] We said that the U.S. presence would not change our policies. If our oil tankers are to be targets in the Persian Gulf, we will retaliate in kind. This policy of retaliation will not change because of the presence of the United States or any other power. [chants]

Our issue is one of retaliation regarding oil tankers. If the U.S. fleet does not intervene, then of course, it will be safe. If it enters the Persian Gulf and goes about its own tasks without engaging any party, nothing will happen. However, if the U.S. fleet swings into action, causes a crisis, or engages in combat and war operations by attacking some place, we will defend ourselves. This is the issue. We never instigated anything in the Persian Gulf and we will not do so. The United States claims that we intend to target the U.S. fleet with missiles and, consequently. has increased its retaliatory and defensive preparations. It is a lie. The United States has doubled the number of its naval vessels from the 26 in the region — the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman, and Indian Ocean. If the United States attempts to attack us, then it must realize it will receive a blow in retaliation, a blow much greater than anything imagined. [passage omitted]

When thousands of ships begin to move, manned by the combative and martyr-seeking men of the Guards Corps and the Mobilization Forces — as we witnessed last week for example in Bandar-e 'Abbas, the Strait of Hormuz, and the Gulf of Oman, and also observed by myself — there will be no possibility of retaliation or confrontation by any vessel or equipment. [chants] [passage omitted]

The United States, with all its bragging, does not dare to enter this arena. It is fearful. I clearly and explicitly declare this. The United States is well aware how very vulnerable it is here. Therefore, the motives they have declared are lies, and in effect their show of forces is also a lie. [passage omitted] I hereby offer two messages, one addressed to the European countries that have sided with the United States and in effect descended into the well using the rotten rope of the United States; namely, Britain and France. These two governments should realize that it is not a suitable spot for them. They will gain nothing, either for their status, their future, or even their regional policies. They will lose here. If the United States were to achieve its objectives in the Persian Gulf — assuming the impossible takes place — it would leave nothing to Britain and France. [passage omitted] If the United States is defeated here — it will suffer this fate if it intervenes militarily — then they will also be defeated. In that case, there will be no respect for Britain and France in this region, just as there is none for the United States. Is France going to forget its claims — Iraq owes it so much — of repayment from Iraq? Is Britain, after continued association with this region lasting many tens of years, going to leave for good? Do they really want to enter the arena? If they want to continue their political presence and to receive respect in the region, certainly it is not in their interests to side with the United States. There is nothing here for them but defeat.

The second issue is addressed to our esteemed people. Brothers and sisters, we are powerful with the blessings of the Almighty. This is a spiritual power beyond material powers. [passage omitted] We are now — praise God — a great military power in the region. [passage omitted] Global arrogance is playing its last cards and shooting its last arrows. [passage omitted] Now we must show our power, our courage, the strength of our order, and also our deep popular belief to our enemies and the United States. [chants] Our most fundamental task is at the fronts and borders, where war continues to rage between the Islamic forces and the aggressive Iraqi regime. Once a decisive blow is dealt there, the enemy will be defeated on all fronts — political, economic, and military. [passage omitted]

Khamene'i Calls United States 'Principal Enemy'

LD150837 Tehran IRNA in English 0824 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Mashhad, Khorasan Prov., Aug. 15, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i said here Saturday that in due course Iran will call to account all those involved in massacre of Iranian hajj pilgrims in Mecca.

On the U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf and rallying of Britain and France behind the U.S., the president said the two latter countries have been forced into the situation unwillingly and despite their political interest. Therefore, he added, Iran's principal enemy is the United States.

Delivers Speech in Mashhad

LD161530 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0933 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Speech by President 'Ali Khamene'i to the people of Mashhad on 15 August — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Today I intend to refer briefly to the problems facing our great revolution and to our own prediction concerning the confrontation between global arrogance and the revolution.

To begin, brothers and sisters, I must tell you quite categorically that at this point it is felt that world arrogance, in a state of apprehension and panic, is adopting an unprecedented stance, having in fact entered the arena with everything at its disposal.

I do not recall any period since the beginning of the revolution during which arrogance has been so flagrantly, openly and — to put it more appropriately — nakedly embroiled, as regards the

Islamic Republic. I hope to be able to describe and explain this nakedness later, if I do not forget. Although since the beginning of the revolution global arrogance has never stopped confronting the revolution in a hostile and deceptive manner, nevertheless I do not recall a period when the angry and wrathful face of arrogance was so obvious as it is today.

Today, we see before us behind the veils of deception, pretension and confirmation [as heard] -- behind which the United States and its allies have hidden themselves for several years -- the dark, angry, restless, desperate, and shameful face of arrogance. A glance at the developments of the last few months makes this very clear.

The latest episode took place in Mecca, where a regime dependent on arrogance so blatantly and in sight of hundreds of thousands of people from other Islamic countries launched an onslaught against the pilgrims. It resorted to an act which we truly never anticipated. We never expected such impudence from the Saudi regime. Before this incident occurred, the U.S. naval force was deployed in the region. This was preceded by the war of embassies between Iran and the arrogant countries that depend on the United States, its allies in Europe and certain Third World countries.

Suddenly we saw an embassy and diplomatic confrontation between Britain and the Islamic Republic, followed by France and the Islamic Republic, resulting in severing relations. As for the Third World countries, suddenly two or three countries — that is, disreputable countries, countries playing second fiddle to arrogance — severed their relations with us, each citing some reasons. Previously, we heard the tale of collusion between some reactionary countries against us in connection with the staging of the Islamic Conference in Kuwait.

Therefore, when we look at these incidents, we see that a series of events took place a few months ago, in the political arena, the military arena, at the UN Security Council, in international propaganda, and the popular pilgrims arena, which taken together show the angry face of arrogance against Islam and the Islamic nations. These were calculated measures, each episode an integral part of a calculated plan.

When we sum up the whole episode, the initial point that I raised becomes clear; that is, today, at this period and stage of the revolution, global arrogance is more angry, more furious, more restless and more apprehensive than ever in confronting the Islamic Republic. It is deploying everything at its disposal against the Islamic Republic. We have never experienced this situation since the beginning of the revolution.

Now, let us look at the reasons. There are three reasons for this recent approach by global arrogance, which began several months ago and which reached its zenith in Mecca. Needless to say, there are various other reasons as well. However, these three reasons are more important than others. [passage omitted]

Let us take a look at the three reasons that angered global arrogance. These three reasons gradually took shape during the 9 years following the revolution. One reason is the survival of the revolution, based on Islam and its own principles. That was the first reason. [passage omitted]

The second reason was the failure of plots to disrupt the revolution. Since the beginning of the revolution, since the day the first revolution government was formed, various plots have been hatched to destroy the revolution from within and ruin the system of the Islamic Republic. Today our nation, even the young people, are aware of many of these plots. The first was the plot of the liberals, then the plot of the minigroups, then the military coup plot, the plot to form pressure groups, the plot to discredit the clergy, the plot to assassinate famous and outstanding figures of the revolution, and the plot to question the credibility of the imam. They tried these various plots during the first 3-4 years of the revolution. These plots failed. They resorted to different types of plots, such as creating a rift among the country's officials, so that by causing clashes and quarrels among the Islamic Republic's officials, they could weaken the Islamic Republic system. They worked on this. [passage omitted]

The third reason was the threat of the revolution spreading worldwide by way of victory in the war. This third factor has worried world arrogance a great deal. They have awakened and now realize how much credit this resistance in the war is due to the Islamic Republic among revolutionaries and among various nations. From the outset we have told the people, as well as some misinformed officials: If we are victorious in this war, which was imposed on us and through which they are trying to destroy the revolution, the time for defense will be over. The time will come for world arrogance to defend itself. [passage omitted] From the outset we have said that this war is our important trench and the revolution's fundamental earthwork. If we conquer this earthwork, then nothing can stand in the way of the propagation of Islam and Islamic ideology in the world. Therefore, we have said that we must attain absolute victory in the war. [passage omitted]

During these years, they have given every kind of assistance to help Iraq win the war. They have done everything in their power. There is nothing more they can do. They have given equipment, boosted morale, laid plans, organized, sent specialists, and taken in and trained military cadres in other countries. They have distorted the facts about the war. They have criticized Iran and they have kept the Islamic Republic system busy with other issues. Whatever arrogance could do to support Iraq, it has done. Seven years after the outbreak of the war — in about 1 month's time, we will have been fighting the war for 7 full years — when the United States and military analysts consider the matter, they can clearly see — and also say in their articles and commentaries — that Iran, calm and dignified, strong and resolute, is moving toward victory.

What will happen after this victory? The important point is: What happens after the Islamic Republic is victorious in this long battle? Two things will happen: first to governments, and second to the nations. Those governments that have always tried to help arrogance, that is, those same reactionaries in the Middle East and the Arab region that tried to create obstacles and help the arrogance — and they have rendered invaluable assistance to arrogance — will be in trouble. They will lose the courage to confront the Islamic Republic. They will realize they cannot and should not fight this power, this revolution, this system, and this nation. They will know this. The second effect will be on the

nations. This is more important. Muslim nations will be aware of their own Islamic identity. Muslim nations will understand the strength of the people and nations. [passage omitted]

To sum up, global arrogance sees three important factors and finds them intolerable. What are these three factors? First, the revolution remains faithful to its Islamic standards and values. Second, plots to disrupt the revolution have failed. Third, the revolution may become worldwide through victory in the war. They see that this revolution and this Islamic Republic system have reached a stage toward which they should not exercise restraint. They should strike in every possible way. Today global arrogance is in such a state. When you look at arrogance, you can see how very angry it is. On the one hand, it is determined to utilize all its capabilities against the Islamic Republic. On the other, you can see it is becoming desperate. It is not anger alone, it is anger together with desperation. They are calculating and fully understand the major issues. When they study our geographic, geopolitical, demographic,and equipment situation, they fully realize that global arrogance is incapable of dealing a fundamental and fatal blow to this dangerous phenomenon that is called the Islamic revolution and the Islamic Republic, despite all its political power, fleets, maritime equipment, and aid to Iraq. So it is despondent. When one views the programs of arrogance and the United States today, one can clearly see this despondency.

I said that the U.S. deployment of naval forces against the revolution, which is unprecedented in recent years, is a stupid move. Why is it stupid? Because this deployment of forces will be fruitless. In the Persian Gulf the reality is that they can do nothing. A great naval fleet is useful where there is room to maneuver. When two naval forces confront each other in an ocean, or in a sea, the stronger naval fleet will be victorious, naturally. This does not apply to the Persian Gulf. They have traveled for thousands of kilometers, with all their capabilities, to a region where we have the longest coastline; we have unlimited manpower; and we have the means to deal blows to U.S. warships. We have all kinds of means at our disposal. If our means were really used against a fleet in the Persian Gulf, none of their warships would be safe, they would all be hit. They know that if they come to the Persian Gulf [as heard], they will be hit.

For this reason, some people in the United States are speaking against Reagan and his clique. What they say is right and logical. They ask: Why do you want to bring more shame to the United States in the Persian Gulf? Even if they damage and sink 100, even 200, of our thousands of boats, 10, 15 or even 20 of their warships will suffer damage and be put out of action. Who will be the loser? Who will be disgraced? They should come to their senses and realize that these superpowers thrive on intimidation and making a lot of noise. The United States has been morally exposed. The U.S. regime pretends that it supports freedom, that it opposes war. U.S. weapons and political equipment are deployed against the Soviet Union and those who sought colonization in the middle of this century. The United States has displayed itself to the world as a strong power, a supporter of freedom and those nations that oppose war and occupation. The United States has been morally exposed among world analysts and nations.

What are you doing in the Persian Gulf? What interests do you have in a region which is several 1,000 km from your own territory? Is the Persian Gulf a region that borders your country so that you feel you are in danger? You lie even to your own people. You say: We are going to the Persian Gulf to protect the flow of oil. However, if you stay away, oil would still flow; if you come, then the flow of oil may stop. By coming here the United States is creating tension and it is tension that could stop the flow of oil from the Persian Gulf.

You want to come to have an impact on the region and, as you yourselves say, end the Iran-Iraq war. However, by taking sides, you are fanning the flames of war all the more. If the United States had stayed away, our nation might perhaps have given a thought to peace. Today, our nation feels that the United States is explicitly supporting Iraq, and we will fight against Iraq to the last breath, to the last person until final victory. [chants of "God is great"] If our nation fights with Iraq for 7 years because of Iraq's aggression, and if the United States then enters the arena and supports this aggressor, our nation's motivation for confrontation will multiply. Our nation does not let go.

You have come, and by your presence you are fanning the flames of war all the more and are creating more tension in the region. If you enter this region and if blood is shed between us and you, the aggressor Americans, you should know that you will never escape the successive blows of our people. [chanting of slogans]

Today from a military viewpoint, from the viewpoint of power, and also from a moral standpoint and claims of supporting peace and freedom and democracy, the United States is naked and bare among the world's nations. It has no honor. It has been exposed. Here is my last word: You should know that the United States will not succeed in the Persian Gulf. You should know that even by uniting with European countries it will not succeed. They have no hope either. You see how fearful it is. You see it is intimidated. A person who wants to jump over a little stream will jump over it and go his way when he finds the courage to do so, but when he does not have the courage to jump, he keeps going backward and forward and keeps saying: I shall jump now; I shall jump now: one, two, two-and-a-half, three. It is clear that he is scared to jump. The Americans have now for 3 months kept saying in the Persian Gulf: one, two, two-and-a-half, three. In the end they do not jump. They have no hope with regard to the Persian Gulf. They have no hope in the political arena of the world. About the domestic plots for which they had hopes, it was decided that you, the people, should be on the alert.

The only place where there remains a tiny shadow of hope for them is the fronts of war of justice against injustice on the borders of the southern and western parts of the country. Their only slight hope is there. If they have the smallest of hopes that perhaps it may be possible to deliver a blow to Iran in some way, it is in the imposed war. Be mindful of that area. Finish the task that has to be done there all the sooner. There the strength of our fighters must be in such an alert state, powerful and ready for orders that at any time when officials want to deliver a blow they are able to do so. I talk from our own viewpoint and from the standpoint of the nation. As far as we are concerned, that is, the officials of the country, all officials, military and nonmilitary, all of them are determined and prepared to solve the war issue with complete

victory of the Islamic fighters — thanks be to God.

From the nation's viewpoint, as a representative of the people, a person who is seeing people's problems from close quarters -- I receive reports from all over the country and I also travel to all parts of the country -- I can say with decisiveness that our people are also strongly determined to maintain their presence on the battlefronts in any way and by any means necessary. There is no doubt about this. [chants]

My only plea is: Do not let the issue of war and the motivation for the war and presence on the battlefronts fall into a state of weariness and forgetfulness among some strata of the population. All strata should pay full attention to this matter. The war belongs to everyone because the revolution belongs to everyone, because the country belongs to everyone, because Islam belongs to everyone. So you see that the world must finally concentrate on the fronts. We must hold on very firmly there. Do not forget your links with God and your prayers. We must solve the problem in all its stages with God's help. [passage omitted]

Envoy in Beijing Says Missiles Not From China

HK141023 Hong Kong AFP in English
0953 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Beijing, Aug 14 (AFP) — Iran's Silkworm missiles deployed around the Strait of Hormuz are not Chinese but copies of missiles seized from Iraq, Tehran's ambassador to Beijing said here Friday. Ala'eddin Borujerdi also told a press conference that China should not follow the U.S. lead by agreeing to protect Kuwaiti oil tankers in the Gulf from attack.

China has consistently denied charges from Washington and elsewhere in the West that it is supplying arms to Iran, saying it is strictly neutral in the Gulf conflict and is not providing weapons to either Tehran or Iraq. The United States believes the land-to-sea Silkworm missiles deployed around the Strait of Hormuz are Chinese-made. But Mr Borujerdi said that the missiles deployed near the strait were "copied" and "modified" versions of Iraqi missiles seized by Tehran troops.

In a statement in April, Mr Borujerdi did not deny that Iran had such missiles, and said that Tehran would defend itself by all the means at its disposal.

China has said that it is undertaking an enquiry to determine if a third country is providing Iran with Chinese-made weapons, but has stressed that Iran could have obtained Chinese weapons on the international arms market. Beijing officially authorised the export of its Silkworm missiles in 1984.

The Silkworm is derived from the Soviet SS-N-2 missile, is called HY-2 in China, has a range of 80 kilometres (50 miles) and is several times more powerful than the French Exocet.

Mr Borujerdi said China should reject a Kuwaiti request to allow Kuwaiti tankers to fly under the Chinese flag. "China shall not do such a thing," Mr Borujerdi said, adding that Beijing had all but rejected Kuwait's offer. China said in June that it was studying the Kuwaiti request.

Karrubi Condemns Saudi Prevention of Prayers

LD141236 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Continuing its hostile activities against the pilgrims to the holy house of God, the Saudi Government last night prevented the holding of special weekly prayers in Medina.

In an interview with our special correspondent in Saudi Arabia, Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi, the representative of the imam and the supervisor of Iranian pilgrims, said: As usual, every year Kumail prayers are said in Medina and Mecca. Unfortunately, the Saudi Arabian Government, by stationing military forces equipped with weapons of war and even with heavy equipment, prevented the holding of Kumail prayers. According to the reports that we have received,the Saudi police arrested some of the pilgrims and even subjected them to assault.

Regarding the lies spread by the Saudi regime, the supervisor of Iranian pilgrims stated: At the beginning, the Saudi officials said that there was no shooting in Mecca. However, all the people who were in Mecca on that day heard the bullets and the machinegun fire. Consequently, the Saudi officials have been forced to tell a different lie each day. First, they say they did not fire any shots. Then, they say that the Islamic Republic of Iran has taken corpses from the fronts to Tehran. I ask them: Have the women also been at the fronts? The passports of these martyrs are quite clear, and if Saudi Arabia grants us permission, I will invite reporters from news agencies to come and see them in Jeddah. Then we will see who is lying and who is telling the truth. Right here we will show them martyrs and wounded persons who still have bullets in their bodies.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi added: In holy Mecca itself the traces of the bullets of the Saudi police can still be seen on walls and on bridges. If the reporters or the representatives of international organizations come to Mecca, they can see them for themselves.

Hajj Officials Arrested, Deported from Mecca

NC170559 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Before we go on with the international news, I wish to draw your attention to an item from our country. According to the Central News Unit, the Saudi regime's forces, in continuing their demeaning measures against the Iranian pilgrims, attacked the Iranian pilgrims' headquarters last night and arrested Mr Rezai'e, the supervisor, and some other hajj officials. According to the latest reports, these persons have been deported to Tehran. In this connection, our correspondent has interviewed Mr Rezai'e:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Rezai'e, Saudi police attacked the headquarters in Mecca last night and arrested and deported you and some other officials of the headquarters. Can you tell us what happened?

[Rezai'e] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. At a time when the Saudi police and government are daily proving their actions as regards the hajj rituals this year, I was in Mecca until yesterday, trying to sort out some difficulties in connection with the martyrs and the injured patients. That was why I was staying on there. According to Saudi law, those who have not been to Medina can visit it. Therefore, I got in touch with their officials. As a result of my contacts with the [words indistinct] institution and the hajj minister, my passport was stamped with an entry permit for Medina, entitling me to go there. However, they telephoned me yesterday and prevented me from going to Medina. They said that I could go 24 hours later. I agreed and my trip was arranged for 1600 today.

At 2100, about five or six of us were sitting in the headquarters working on our program about the affairs of the killed and wounded, when at least 2,000 to 3,000 policemen surrounded the headquarters and the bridge and hills nearby. They suddenly entered the building, swarming all over it, and arrested all of us. We were like prisoners. They took us to the airport at Jeddah and later sent us out of the country. This goes against the instructions which the minister himself gave. I do not know on what basis and for what reason this was done, but it seems they do not abide by their own laws. This is what they did.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much. [end recording]

Afghan Forces Kill Civilians in Border Attack

LD161051 Tehran IRNA in English 1039 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 16, IRNA — A number of Iranians were martyred or wounded in an unprovoked attack by Afghan Government forces on border outpost and customs building of Do Gharun in Tayyebat of Khorasan Province of Iran Friday. [as received] The Karmal forces used long range artillery as a result of which the two buildings were damaged. Immediately after the incident the Iranian military forces on the border area were put on alert to prevent any further aggression.

Officials in Tehran and Iranian representative in Kabul protested the attack and demanded Afghan authorities to provide an immediate explanation, and punish those involved in the incident. The Afghan Government has also been called on to compensate for the damage caused in default of which the Iranian Government will hold it responsible for the consequences.

The Kabul puppet regime unable to encounter Muslim mujahidin of Afghanistan, in a bid to divert world public opinion from the escalation of activities of Afghan mujahidin, occasionally violates borders of its neighbour countries. The Iranian forces are reportedly on full alert to punish the Kabul regime if it repeats such acts.

Khashuqji Denies Alleging U.S. Assassination Plot

NC150644 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0540 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Saudi businessman 'Adnan Khashuqji, who played the role of mediator in supplying Iran with U.S. weapons, has denied having told Kuwaiti journalists that the United States had at one time planned to assassinate Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeyni.

Mehdi Hashemi Treason Trial Begins 13 Aug

LD151845 Tehran IRNA in English 1835 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 15, IRNA — Former head of the Islamic Liberation Organisations bureau of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Mehdi Hashemi went on trial here Thursday on eight charges, including murder, kidnapping and attempting to overthrow the Islamic Republic. Hashemi's bill of indictment was read by the prosecutor of spiritual court in the first session of the trial.

The indictment includes charges as varied as assassination, kidnapping, links with previous regime's notorious intelligence service (Savak), purloining confidential government documents, attempting to sabotage Islamic government's foreign policies, cynical acts against the Islamic Republic and its officials, smuggling weapons and ammunitions from the IRGC as well as establishing self-centered cells.

Hashemi arrested late November 1986, has confessed to most of his charges, resulting in the arrest of many of his accomplices.

Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic ordered Hashemi's 750-page file to be carefully investigated.

In a televised interview months after his detention, Hashemi confessed to the charges against him, and pleaded for the imam's pardon.

In 1976, Mehdi Hashemi was arrested by the former regime of the defunct shah and received a death sentence, however, he survived by promising to cooperate with the Savak and was freed from the jail in the course of the 1979 Islamic revolution.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

Communique No 2,928

LD141711 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 14, IRNA — Heavy artillery fire of Muslim combatants aborted an enemy counter-attack in the operational region of Sardasht Thursday where the enemy troops sustained casualties and were forced to flee before advancing.

Joint Staff Communique Number 2928 said that Iranian Navy intercepted and inspected four commercial ships and tankers yesterday but allowed them to proceed as they were not carrying suspicious cargo for Iraq.

Muslim combatants patrol units safely returned to their bases without suffering any losses or casualties after collecting information on the enemy movements.

The communique also said that the Iraqi Ba'thist forces' moves in Sumar, Panjwin operational regions, were checked early

Thursday where they were forced to give ground owing to Inn's heavy artillery fire.

Iraq Bombs Sardasht Village

LD141730 Tehran IRNA in English 1729 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 14, IRNA — Iraqi warplanes bombed a village near Sardasht, W. Azarbayjan Province Friday mornig. Several civilians were martyred or wounded in the air raid.

Communique No 2,929

LD151618 Tehran IRNA in English 1547 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 15, IRNA — Iranian Muslim combatants smashed an Iraqi counteroffensive on Shohada (martyrs), hill in the western operational theater of Maymak Friday, inflicting heavy casualties and losses on the attacking enemy troops and forcing them to retreat.

Announcing the above, the 2929th Joint Staff communique reported here Saturday that Iranian artillery fire killed and wounded several Iraqi soldiers and destroyed vast parts of enemy positions on the western shoulder of heights [as received] 67 in the western fronts, yesterday.

The communique said that Iranian Gendarmerie Forces sheled Iraqi positions in parts of the southern fronts Friday, killingor wounding a number of enemy soldiers and destroying 10 gun emplacements and two vehicles of theirs.

A number of Iraqi patrol convoys, attempting to infiltrate Iranan positions in Qasr-e Shirin and Sayyid Sadiq, western fronts, were forced to flee yesterday when shelled by Iranian Muslim combatants.

The artillery fire of Iranian forces inflicted considerable loses on Iraqi vehicle columns moving in Helaleh and Neikhzar [name as received] Friday. An Iraqi soldier defected to Irn's Muslim combatants in a western operational theater on Thursday.

Iranian navy gunboats intercepted and searched an oil tanker in the Strait of Hormuz Friday but allowed it to continue voyage after being satisfied it was not carrying goods for Iraq, the communique concluded.

1,000 Enemy Casualties in 'Nasr-7'

LD151842 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] According to reports from "Nasr-7" operational region, the Zionist enemy launched a counteroffensive in the early hours of this morning attempting to recapture parts of heights in the operational region by deploying two commando brigades. The courageous fighters of the ground forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and intense artillery fire dealt the enemy a resounding defeat and forced it to retreat.

In the course of the engagement more than 1,000 enemy forces belonging to special forces brigades and also a commando brigade belonging to the Iraqi Corps were killed and injured. A tank company of the 49th Battalion of the 24th Division was destroyed.

The operation, lasting until noon today, supported by the brave men of the airborne units of the infantry of the Islamic Republic of Iran Armed Forces, destroyed five ammunition dumps, two artillery batteries, many light and heavy vehicles, as well as engineering equipment. An enemy helicopter gunship was hit and downed by the fire of the Ground Forces of the IRGC.

Iraqi Raid Hits Industrial Plant

LD161047 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the enemy this morning launched an air raid on an industrial unit in Khuzestan Province. As a result, damage was done to the unit, and several workers were hurt.

Peshawar 14 Aug Bombing Kills 2, Injures 13
BK141457 Hong Kong AFP in English
1438 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 14 (AFP) — A bomb killed two people and wounded 13 Friday [14 August] in Peshawar in western Pakistan, the official *Associated Press of Pakistan* (APP) news agency said.

The bomb was planted in a drain outside a row of crowded shops, correspondents in the city said. Two of the 13 injured were in serious condition, APP said quoting doctors.

A bomb had exploded earlier in the day in the city's university area, destroying an electricity transformer, APP said.

The bombings came on the 40th anniversary of Pakistan's independence.

All official ceremonies in Peshawar had been cancelled, however, because of bomb attacks in the town of Mardan some 65 kilometers (40 miles) away Tuesday [11 August] which left 18 people dead.

There have been a number of bomb attacks in Pakistan in recent weeks, the worst killing 80 people in Karachi July 14. Security was tightened throughout the country after the blast.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has linked the attacks to the situation in neighbouring Afghanistan.

The Pakistani press and officials have said they suspect the Afghan secret service is responsible, because of Islamabad's support for Afghan rebels.

Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo pledged in an independence day message Friday to deal with the bombings with an "iron hand."

Opposition leader Benazir Bhutto said in a statement that there was nothing to celebrate. "Should we celebrate having brought the Afghan war into our streets and bazaars?"

Ethnic Rioting Breaks out in Karachi; Shops Burned
BK151344 Hong Kong AFP in English
1329 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Karachi, Aug 15 (AFP) — Several people have been hurt and at least 35 shops burned or damaged in renewed ethnic riots in the Pakistani city of Karachi, police said Saturday [15 August].

They declined to give the cause for the confrontation.

But witnesses said the dispute arose when supporters of an Urdu-speaking organisation, the Muhajir Quami Movement, hoisted their flag over a building.

A group from the Punjabi Pathans Alliance objected, removed the flag and hoisted their own.

The witnesses said the Punjabis then attacked Urdu shops.

Rioting between the two groups last month in Karachi left at least 15 people dead and dozens injured.

Indian Ministers Meet Officials in Peshawar
BK161538 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan [Pakhtoon leader] arrived in Peshawar from New Delhi this afternoon. He was taken to the intensive care unit of the Lady Readings Hospital.

The Indian delegation accompanying Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan included Mr N.D. Tiwari, the minister for finance and commerce; Mrs Mohsina Kidwai, the minister for urban development; Mr Natwar Singh, the minister of state for external affairs; Miss Saroj Khaparde, the minister of state for health; and five members of the Indian Parliament. The delegation called on NWFP Governor Fida Mohammad Khan and Chief Minister Arbab Mohammad Jahangir Khan this evening.

The governor and the chief minister visited Lady Readings Hospital this evening and inquired about Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan's health.

Ziaul Haq Independence Day Message Reported
BK140559 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] The nation will celebrate the 41st independence day with full enthusiasm, fervor, and resolve for the welfare and well-being of the country, and with the reaffirmation of the pledge to achieve the objectives of the establishment of Pakistan. President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, in a message on the occasion, called upon the nation to further intensify efforts for the establishment of a society based on Islamic values free from chaos, disorder, and exploitation so the fruits of independence can reach the entire masses of the country. We should pledge to make Pakistan a fountainhead of peace, a model of the Islamic system, and a source of happiness for all. The president said the objective of the establishment of Pakistan was not only to establish Muslim rule, but also to set up a Muslim state in which a truly Islamic system can be enforced. A foundation has been laid for the enforcement of the Islamic system over the past 10 years. However, the establishment of an Islamic society is not a matter of a day, a year, or a decade; it is a continuous process in which every individual of the nation has to play his role.

The president said by the grace of God democracy has been established in Pakistan and a people's representative government is in power which is trying to solve the people's problems at all levels. He called upon the people to maintain unity in their ranks and not to allow any internal or external enemy to create a rift among them in the name of religious sects, parties, regions, or language.

Extending independence day greetings to the nation, the president prayed for [passage indistinct].

Ziaul Haq, Junejo Visit Mardan Blast Victims

BK151647 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo went to the district headquarters hospital immediately after arriving at Mardan this afternoon. They visited all the patients and asked about the health of those injured in the bomb blasts. NWFP Governor Fida Mohammad Khan, Chief Minister Arbab Mohammad Jahangir Khan, and others accompanied them. Later, the prime minister addressed senators, federal and provincial assembly members, and local councillors in Mardan.

Referring to the bomb blasts, the prime minister said that comprehensive steps have been taken in this regard and results will be evident very soon. He rejected the impression created by vested interests that the government was doing nothing to deal with the situation. He urged the people to be aware of saboteurs and to cooperate fully in order to check terrorist acts. The prime minister announced an award of 100,000 rupees to anyone providing information relating to sabotage. He commended the people and the local social welfare organizations for providing immediate help to those affected by the 11 August bomb blast. He urged hospitals to provide all possible facilities in order to avoid any difficulties in dealing with these emergencies. He said that an emergency hospital, with all modern facilities, will be set up in Peshawar to provide immediate and special treatment to those affected by bomb blasts. The prime minister also announced that in addition to the compensation paid by the provincial government, each breadwinner injured in the Mardan blasts will be given 1,000 rupees a week during hospitalization. He also said that two ambulances and 100,000 rupees will be provided to improve medical facilities in the Mardan District headquarters hospital.

On Afghanistan, Mohammad Khan Junejo said that efforts are satisfactorily under way for a political solution to the problem. He said that the world community continues to support Pakistan's concrete stand on it, and this is first time during the last 7 years that the Soviet Union has felt the need to hold direct talks with Pakistan on the issue. Mohammad Khan Junejo said that a solution to the Afghan issue is not easy because a superpower is involved. He said that the elected government, however, is giving utmost priority to it, keeping in mind the people's aspirations and the views of their elected representatives so that the Afghan refugees can return to their home with honor and dignity.

Earlier, Mardan District Council Chairman Rahim Khan Bacha and Municipal Committee Chairman Wazir Mohammad Khan in their speeches thanked the president and prime minister on behalf of the people of Mardan for their visit.

Interior Minister Reviews Law, Order Situation

BK161804 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Various measures to improve the law and order situation in the country were discussed at a meeting in Islamabad today. Federal Interior Minister Mr Malik Nasim Ahmad Ahir presided. He directed the officials concerned to make foolproof arrangements to check the smuggling of arms and ammunition into the country. On the question of illegal immigrants in the country, it was decided that strict action will be taken against those entering into Pakistan on fake documents or through illegal means. Reorganization of the police force and coordination among intelligence agencies at the provincial level also came under discussion. The need to better coordinate among law enforcing federal agencies was stressed. The meeting reviewed security arrangements for the forthcoming world cricket cup in seven different centers of the country.

'Special Tribunals' To Try Subversion Cases

BK161140 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Special tribunals to try cases of subversion are to start functioning within the next few weeks all over the country. The federal minister for justice and parliamentary affairs, Mr Wasim Sajjad, told newsmen in Islamabad today that the provincial governments were setting up these tribunals which would expeditiously complete hearing of the cases. He said the elected government is making efforts to simplify the judicial system, eliminating unnecessary delays in the public interests. The number of judges would also be increased.

Replying to a question, he reiterated the government's desire to evolve a consensus on shariah [Islamic law] which is acceptable to all schools of thought.

EPRLF Leaders Depart To Surrender Weapons

BK150832 Hong Kong AFP in English 0827 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 15 (AFP) — The leaders of a Sri Lankan Tamil militant group left their southern Indian base for home Saturday [15 August] to surrender their arms, a rebel spokesman said.

K. Padmanabaha, chief of the Marxist-leaning Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), left by an Indian Air Force plane for the eastern Batticaloa District, an EPRLF spokesman said by telephone from Madras, southern India. He was accompanied by L. Keethishwaran, another top leader, and 16 others.

The leaders of the dominant Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and the smaller Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS) are already in Sri Lanka.

The EPRLF spokesman did not say when and where the arms surrender, under a July 29 peace accord between India and Sri Lanka designed to end the island nation's Tamil separatist conflict, would take place.

Meanwhile, EROS leaders and cadres would lay down their arms in Jaffna and Batticaloa Districts Saturday, an EROS spokesman said in a telephone interview. Both the EROS, an LTTE ally, and the anti-LTTE EPRLF are small but well-knit Marxist groups.

An Indian Tamil politician close to LTTE leader Velupillai Prabahakaran said here Saturday that the militant leader had contemplated suicide after India and Sri Lanka signed the peace accord. "I feel like committing suicide," Mr. Prabahakaran told V. Gopalasamy on July 30, a day after the peace pact was signed in Colombo.

"When Prabahakaran spoke to me, he sounded disgusted," Mr. Gopalasamy told *Agence France-Presse*. "He said he felt like committing suicide, but said he knew that he shouldn't do it because the LTTE needed him." Mr. Gopalasamy is a prominent leader of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), the main opposition party in the southern state of Tamil Nadu, where all Sri Lankan Tamil militants have offices. He is known to be very close to the LTTE and is popularly called "Anna" (elder brother) by the 33-year-old Mr. Prabahakaran, who used to carry a cyanide capsule to commit suicide in case of capture by Sri Lankan Armed Forces.

Mr. Gopalasamy said the LTTE supremo spoke to him on the telephone twice for 30 minutes on July 30 and 31 after the Indian MP was prevented by Indian security men from meeting Mr. Prabhakaran at the luxury hotel where he stayed here for nearly 10 days from July 24.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi denied on July 30 that LTTE leaders brought here for talks with Indian officials were being detained at the hotel. But the LTTE alleged that Mr. Prabahakaran and his aides were under virtual house-arrest.

Mr. Prabahakaran reportedly told Mr. Gopalasamy that his hotel room was "an air-conditioned prison". The rebel leader also complained that he had been "tricked" by Indian officials, who had told him in the northern Jaffna Peninsula that he was being taken to New Delhi only for a meeting with Mr. Gandhi, Mr. Gopalasamy said.

"I was simply told to come and have a face-to-face meeting with the prime minister," Mr. Prabahakaran reportedly said, adding: "They (officials) told me that Mr. Gandhi had certain misconceptions about me which needed to be removed.

"But when I landed here, I knew I had been tricked and trapped. The (peace) agreement was simply read out to me. I wasn't even given a copy. And they wanted me to approve it."

The LTTE leader, who had been underground since 1983, said New Delhi had landed itself in a "quagmire" by signing the peace accord, guaranteeing Colombo unlimited military assistance to implement it, "and it would realise this in the times to come." Mr. Prabahakaran, now in Jaffna, said on his return home that the LTTE would put down its weapons as envisaged by the peace agreement only because India was "a powerful country" and he had no other choice.

Mr. Gopalasamy, who is known to often reflect the Tamil militants' thinking, said the accord would not succeed since the majority Sinhalese community in Sri Lanka would never let the Tamil minority enjoy equal status.

EROS Formally Surrenders Arms in Jaffna

BK151011 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0943 GMT 15 Aug 87

["OANA/pool" item — all numbers as received]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 15 (*Lanka Puwath*) — Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS) made their formal surrender of arms at the Palaly airport, Jaffna at 1700 hours (local time) yesterday.

Official sources told *Lanka Puwath* that the weapons surrendered were 33 AK-47 rifles, 09 self loading rifles, 08 sub-machine guns, 3-six millimetre mortars, 06 locally manufactured RK mortars, 75 bombs, 72 hand grenades and a large quantity of explosives and ammunition.

The EROS surrender of arms was preceded by a public meeting which was addressed by the leader Balakumar last Thursday [13 August] at Batticaloa. Earlier, the LTTE to held a public meeting in Jaffna on the eve of the formal surrender of arms, also at the Jaffna airport.

LTTE Suspends Arms Handover; Harassment Reported

BK160632 Hong Kong AFP in English 0620 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 16 (AFP) — Sri Lanka's main Tamil guerrilla group has suspended its weapons surrender, demanding

security for the Tamil population and closure of Army camps, Tamil sources said here Sunday.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) made the announcement in the northern town of Jaffna Saturday after complaining that Tamil civilians were being harassed by Sri Lankan troops in the Eastern Province, the sources said.

Indian newspapers Sunday quoted LTTE's Jaffna commander, Kumarappa, as saying that "his organisation would not lay down arms until it got a guarantee about the safety of the people." There were no further details.

The LTTE office in Madras, southern India, could neither confirm nor deny the report. But the sources said the Indian Government had been informed of the development and the matter would be taken up with LTTE leaders.

"What is developing in Sri Lanka is a serious situation," said the sources who are close to both the militants and the Indian Government. "If the LTTE sticks to its stand, it is bound to get wider appeal and possibly lead to real problems."

The LTTE had reportedly informed Indian officials that all Sri Lankan Army camps in the multi-racial east had to be dismantled even though the India-Sri Lanka peace accord provides only for the closure of camps set up after May 25.

The sources said senior Indian officials had been told in detail about the LTTE's demands and discussions might be held with the group in Madras, where it maintains offices, as well as in Jaffna. The LTTE, the strongest of six major rebel groups with at least 2,000 armed fighters, handed over about 800 weapons between August 5 and 9, government officials in Colombo have said.

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who signed the accord July 29 with Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene, admitted Friday that problems had arisen in implementing the peace pact. He told reporters: "There are some difficulties. We had anticipated these problems and will overcome them."

Though some Special Task Force (STF) camps have been reportedly removed in Sri Lanka's east, the LTTE and the smaller Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS) have said more than 100 other Army camps still remained, media reports said.

The EROS made its first weapons surrender Saturday, handing over rifles, grenades, rocket launchers and gelignite in the eastern port of Batticaloa.

The LTTE is predominant in the Tamil-dominated north but relatively weaker in the Eastern Province, where the EROS is known to wield more influence. Tamil sources said the LTTE had also complained that its members were being harassed by rival rebel groups, including the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO) and the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOT).

Spokesmen for the three groups have in the past denied the charge.

The LTTE has already described as "unrealistic" reports that all militant weapons would have to be put down by August 18, when the Sri Lankan Parliament goes into session.

"The deadline would have to be extended, and it will be," the source said. "There is no other way."

In a related development, the EROS Sunday alleged that Tamil civilians were being harassed by Sri Lankan security forces in the east.

An EROS spokesman told *Agence France-Presse* by telephone from Madras that several Tamil homes had been looted since the peace accord was signed.

Some 6,000 Indian peace-keeping forces have moved into Sri Lanka's north and east to oversee implementation of the agreement.

Indian Military Officer Dies in Landmine Blast

BK150209 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0203 GMT 15 Aug 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 14 (*Lanka Puwath*) — One of the two members of the Indian peace-keeping force who was wounded in a landmine explosion near the Jaffna Fort on Wednesday [12 August] died at the Jaffna Hospital this afternoon, the Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation (SLRC) telecast and the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC) announced in its news bulletin tonight. Lt. Pankaj Vikram died due to post operation complications.

The explosion occurred while they were clearing mines in the area.

The two Army officers (Major Dalip Singh and Naik Subedar Mukund Rao) [word indistinct] died the same day in the same incident were cremated with full military honours in Hyderabad today.